

## **Governors' Report – Oak Class, Valerie Henry**

### **Teaching and Learning**

Mrs Foreman takes overall responsibility for the organisation of the four ASDAN courses we offer in class and ensures that each pupil is working at a level appropriate to their needs. Two of our pupils with the most complex needs have completed the first unit of the 'Transition Challenge'; another has completed the 'Transition Challenge' and moved on to 'Towards Independence'. Four of our Sixth Form students are ready to have their work submitted for external moderation in April.

Sixth Form students have been learning about the options available to them after they leave school. They enjoyed a trip to Kirkley Hall Campus, which included a tour of the facilities and an opportunity to ask questions about the range of courses on offer. They have also visited Shared Interests and Border Links to find out more about the activities they provide locally. Our senior students are assisting in other classes to gain work experience and to develop their skills in sports leadership, and one student has been assisting young readers at Tweedmouth Middle School. We have made links with the Youth Project in Berwick, and Sixth Form are looking forward to a visit to the Beehive this week.

Pupils took part in a week-long music project led by 'Jessie's Fund', with each pupil accessing the activities at their individual level then performing together at a musical assembly at the end of the week. To further develop pupils' experiences of music, Mrs Hunter is delivering regular musical sensory sessions for our pupils with complex needs.

### **Achievement and Progress**

An analysis of the pupils' progress, based on B-squared data, shows that the majority of pupils are making *good* or *excellent* progress in their English learning, with 62% of the progress scores falling in these categories. In maths, 84% of the progress scores are '*as expected*', *good* or *excellent*, with 48% of these falling into the latter category.

### **Behaviour and Safety of Children**

A pupil with complex learning and behavioural needs has recently transferred into Oak class and is requiring on-going high level support from staff. This pupil has recently been allocated an increase in funding due to the complexity of her needs. Three of our pupils experience periods of becoming 'stuck', finding it difficult to move on from their position within the school. Staff take turns to support these pupils during these times, implementing a variety strategies tailored to the individual pupil.

We are continuing to develop the use of visual timetables and communication aids in the classroom to support pupils in their understanding of their school routine. Sensory activities, massage therapy and supported play (indoors and outside) are incorporated into our timetable in order that all pupils have relaxation time within their day. The Sixth Form students have been learning about the importance of mental health, and have been exploring approaches to developing a healthy mind. The whole class presented their learning during a recent assembly and have created displays on this topic in the assembly hall and in the classroom.

### **Leadership and Management**

Mrs Henry and Mrs Foreman have evaluated the progress of the Action Plans for Sixth Form, Work Experience and ASDAN. Mrs Blackie is currently on teaching placement at Tweedmouth Middle School. Mrs Foreman has attended training on the 'Arts Award' course which will enable us to provide another opportunity for Sixth Form students to work towards a qualification.