

CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEARNING SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17SEPTEMBER 2009

PROGRESS REPORT ON HYLTON RED HOUSE PRIMARY SCHOOL

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To update the Review Committee on activity and progress at Hylton Red House Primary School that is subject to Special Measures through an Ofsted judgement, following the third monitoring visit, the report of which is attached (Appendix 1).

2. Background

- 2.1 Hylton Red House Primary School has been in Special Measures since September 2008. With intensive support from the Local Authority through the School Improvement Service the quality of the curriculum provision offered to the pupils is now improving significantly and the third HMI report regarded progress in the school to be satisfactory since the previous monitoring visit and the declaration of Special Measures.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The HMI Monitoring visit on 30th June and 1st July 2009 judged progress since being put into special measures satisfactory and progress since the previous monitoring visit on all the areas for improvement satisfactory. As a result of the improvements in the quality of provision, children in the Foundation Stage have made good progress and in Key Stages 1 and 2 pupils' progress has continued to accelerate. Improvements in leadership and management continue to be satisfactory with inspectors noting the clear direction that the Acting Headteacher has provided for the staff and the good teamwork that now exists at all levels in the school. Ofsted noted good improvements in the Foundation Stage and the school's specialist language provision and judged the quality of provision in both these areas to be good. Levels of sickness and absence amongst staff continue to be high.
- 3.2 On 16th July 2009 The Local Authority was given consent from the Secretary of State to create an Interim Executive Board (IEB) in order to secure, so far as it is practicable to do so, the provision of a sound basis for future improvement in the conduct of the school through the use of a specially-appointed governing body for a temporary period. A Notice of Establishment (Appendix 2) was issued to the school's Governing Body, IEB Members and the Secretary of State on 24th July

2009 stating that on 1st September 2009 the existing governors of Hylton Red House Primary School Sunderland would vacate office and the IEB would act in its agreed role from that date until 31st August 2010 when a new permanently constituted governing body will be in place. Parents and carers were informed of these arrangements by letter during the week beginning 27th July 2009

- 3.3 The role of each IEB member has been stated in Schedule 1 of the Agreement drawn up between each member and the Council of the City of Sunderland (Appendix 3)

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The Local Authority continues to use all the means at its disposal to address issues in the school and lead the school out of the category of Special Measures

5 Background Papers

Appendix 1: Ofsted Letter

Appendix 2: Notice of Establishment of the Interim Executive Board (IEB)

Appendix 3: Schedule 1 from each IEB Members' Agreement

Contact Officer: Margaret Ferrie
Chief Inspector of Schools
0191 561 5613
margaret.ferrie@sunderland.gov.uk