

Community Inclusive Trust



“Where learning comes first”

Health Check☑

Isaac Newton Primary School

9th and 10th November 2016

Mr S Farrington	Headteacher – Burford Primary School
Mr J Ellis	Head of School – Ambergate Sports College
Miss C Buffham	Director of Education - The Community Inclusive Trust
Mr P Bell	Chief Executive Officer - The Community Inclusive Trust
<p>The team were joined by S Eade, J Watson, H Hilton and E Harkins all of whom are either Headteacher, Head of School or Deputy Headteacher in Lincolnshire schools.</p>	
Health Check Arrangements	
<p>The Community Inclusive Trust ensures that each school within the trust has a Health Check on an annual basis. The Health Check forms the basis on which the school’s trajectory is measured and is used to assess a full range of school activities. This report gives the results of the Health Check at Isaac Newton Primary School on 9th and 10th November 2016.</p> <p>The following areas give an overview of the conclusions reached:</p>	
Overall Effectiveness – Good	
<p>Each member of the team completing the health check agreed that the school is performing at a good standard.</p>	
Leadership and Management	
<p>Leadership within Isaac Newton Primary School is good. During the Health Check each member of the school’s Leadership Team was interviewed. The information gained from the interview process was then triangulated with assessment data and the findings of the review team to identify the following strengths:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Foundation Stage Leader had a clear understanding of the requirements within the EYFS and has ensured that strategies used impacted upon learning. The impact is reflected in the results rising from 43% to 70% within 3 years • In the Foundation Stage there is a robust baselining system which is used to ensure that planning can best meet the needs of pupils. Baseline judgements have been moderated by the Local Authorities “Birth to Five” service. • The use of an extra Teaching Assistant to support the development of pupils eligible for the “Pupil Premium” has had a significant impact. • The Key Stage One Leader was able to detail the strategies that have resulted in hugely successful phonics results • The Y3/4 and Year 5/6 Team Leader were able to explain the way in which Key Stage 2 has developed since 2014 and could demonstrate the way in which their actions have impacted on the standards and progress within the teams. • The Deputy and Assistant Headteacher were able to show the impact on their areas of responsibility. Examples were shared with the interview team and this was reflected in data and observations. • The SENDCo/Safeguarding was lead showed that there was a clear referral process in place. Staff and pupils were able to tell members of the Health Check Team about the procedures should they have any worries. 	

- The head teacher has a clear vision for how to improve the school and should be congratulated on the impressive progress that has been made.

Teaching and Learning

The health check team carried out lesson observations and undertook an extensive book scrutiny. This demonstrated the following strengths:

- There are many examples of strong practice within classes
- Behaviour within lessons was at least good in the vast majority of lessons observed
- Book scrutiny showed a wealth of work which was at the correct standard given the pupils starting points
- All books scrutinised has been marked and all had examples where the pupils has responded to the marking
- The IPEEL system being used to enhance writing in Years 4 and 5 could be seen to be having an impact on the quality of work produced
- The quality of relationships between staff and pupils ensures that behaviours throughout the day are good
- The school has a fantastic learning environment. That reflects the broad and balanced curriculum

Personal Development and Welfare

The school caters well for the wide range of needs of pupils within the school. This was evident as follows:

- Attendance is in line with the national average and robust systems are in place to challenge poor attendance. This ensures that pupil progress is not hampered
- Pupils arrive to school ready to learn and quickly settle into their work upon arrival
- Those parents to whom the team spoke had an extremely positive view of the school and happy with the quality of education their children receive
- Play time behaviours were excellent and children were polite and well-mannered throughout the day
- Pupils are keen to share their learning and proud of the work they have done
- Pupils understand the safeguarding systems in place and were able to tell members of the Health Check Team what they would do if they had any worries
- The school has both training and systems in place to ensure that safeguarding remains a priority

Outcomes for Pupils

The outcomes and progress for pupils have increased dramatically in the past three years this is reflected in the outcomes of national testing and internal tracking:

- The school achieved results in excess of those seen nationally at Year 6 in

2016.

- Progress from KS1 to KS2 is good in reading writing and maths. The school is aware of groupings where progress can be made and is working to ensure that these areas are addressed
- The achievement for pupils eligible for pupil premium is 10% below that of other pupils when the combined reading writing and maths results are viewed. However pupils eligible for pupil premium are in line with other pupils when the individual subjects were considered
- The KS2 results place Isaac Newton School significantly ahead of the average achieved by other sponsored academies nationally
- The school has a clear evidence base to show that the spending of pupil premium money is impacting on progress and achievement
- Results across the school are in line with those seen nationally at the expected level. The school has identified an increase in pupils obtaining greater depth as an area to develop

Key Strengths

- Boys are performing at a high level when compared with the national averages
- The behaviour throughout school was a credit to the staff and pupils
- The quality of the work in the books that were scrutinised consistently showed good progress
- The outcomes for pupils within each year group has increased continually in the past three years
- Pupil premium spending is leading to positive outcomes for pupils

Areas to Develop

- How will the school ensure that the outcomes for girls accelerate to match those seen nationally and then to match those achieved by boys within Isaac Newton?
- Some learning time was lost during lessons – how can lessons ensure that all pupils are learning throughout?
- There were some inconsistencies in marking – whilst there were numerous examples of pupils responding to their teachers' comments there were also occasions on which pupils had been asked to respond and hadn't – how can this be addressed.

Throughout the day the members of the Health Check Team were warmly welcomed and would like to extend their thanks to all members of the school community.