

Barker's Lane Community School

Governor Self Evaluation

Governors: VG; PF; CB; SP

In pairs, governors talked to groups of learners from Y2 to Y6 then gave feedback to CE.

Curriculum

The questions asked were around:

- *Which lessons do you enjoy?*
- *How well are you doing at school?*
- *How can you improve?*
- *What do you do if you find your work hard?*
- *Are there enough resources to help you do your work? (books / digital devices)*

Nearly all children spoken to talked about enjoying their learning. They talked about a wide range, with history, P.E and maths being popular. They were confident and positive about themselves. When talking about what they could improve, writing was theme and a few talked about practising at home. Using their brain and growth mindset were also a feature in a few classes.

Nearly all of the children talked about having a learning partner who could help them if they found their work hard. Older children talked about using the working wall, looking in their book before asking a teacher for help. A small group also talked about an app to help with Welsh.

Generally there was a consensus that the children had access to enough resources. Although Y2 did say that they would like more lego and that they had to share ipads with the other Y2 class next door. The older children were really pleased to be writing in pen.

Care, Support & Guidance

The questions asked were around:

- *How does school help you learn how to be healthy?*
- *Who would you talk to if you had a problem / worry in school?*
- *What do you have in your class to help?*
- *How do you know everyone gets treated fairly?*
- *How do playground buddies help others?*
- *What do you do to keep safe when playing games online / using the internet / using mobile phone?*
- *Are there places that you feel safe in the community? Any places that you feel may not be safe? Why?*

A range of responses balanced between mental and physical health were given. A few children talked about a recent visit from PC Hulley who talked about 'alcohol and substances'. Younger children talked about healthy eating and having milk and fruit at school.

Children in all classes were able to identify trusted adults that they would talk to if they were worried or upset. They also talked about the 'worry box' in each class. Younger children described how they use emojis to say how they are feeling. Older children described 'bubble time' and being able to access the Ystafell Enfys.

Nearly all of the children talked about the golden rules and how they feel things are fair. Younger children talked about swaps and rotations in class. Older children described that teachers 'don't put anyone on the spot' which would make them uncomfortable. Older children said that teachers didn't have favourites and that they felt everyone was treated the same.

Younger children talked about playground buddies being there to help them if they wanted to play, needed to go inside or if they were hurt. Older children described that they could volunteer to be buddies, that they played games and helped younger children to get involved. An observation was made that some Y3 children were keen to be buddies and that it did not phase them that they did not now have buddies supporting them. A few children raised that it would be good to have reserve buddies for when people are away.

Responses about staying safe online were more inconsistent. The older children knew that they should not say anything unkind online. Y4 children described that they had online rules in their classroom and were age appropriate aware. Older children referred to passwords and talked about sessions with PC Hulley. They knew that certain sites were blocked for safety. They talked about problems that can occur in group chats outside of school and how Mrs Edwards had talked to them about this.

School and home came out of the discussion as safe places. Many children also felt safe with their friends. Most of the children talked about not feeling safe if they were out on their own in the park, for example.

Strengths and what can we improve

Some of the responses to the following questions:

If somebody new came along to Barker's Lane, what would you tell them is really good about school?

- Everybody is nice and friendly.
- Dinners are good.
- Playtime is fun and good.
- There is relaxation time.
- Always safe.
- Always something fun to do when you get into school.
- Always feel welcome.
- We would make sure they knew all of the rules and to be respectful.

What would be the one thing you would change about our school if you were in charge?

- Longer break times as they used to be fifteen minutes.
- Y6 children talked about footballs that they had raised money for in Y5 and would like to use them this year.
- More bins outside.
- Bigger yard so all year groups can use it.
- Too much maths homework.
- Change dinners - yorkshire pudding with the chicken!
- Sometimes one of the Y2 toilets does not flush properly.