

Henry Fawcett Primary



*Yes we can*

Improving Standards at  
Henry Fawcett Primary School

# Introduction

Following our recent Ofsted inspection Henry Fawcett Primary School has been placed into Special Measures.

Special Measures is the term used when Ofsted finds that the school is providing an unsatisfactory service for the children and community it serves. Clear targets are set for the school to improve and the school is inspected more regularly to check they are achieving their goals.

When the Hill Mead team agreed to partner Henry Fawcett, we knew that Special Measures was a strong possibility for the school. Hill Mead Primary School has moved from being a school causing concern to a successful primary school over the past six years. We believe therefore, that we can achieve the same at Henry Fawcett.

# 1 Good or better progress for children

**Ofsted noted many of the changes we have already made, but after only two weeks of term, they had not yet shown an impact. By week four we have seen many areas improve since the Ofsted inspection, but there is still a lot of work to do.**

## WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

To make sure that progress is good or better we need to make sure that teaching is good or better.

- We have carried out a complete restructure of the staff to include more teachers for the children
- We have introduced a senior teacher to each phase group, and it is their job to make sure each child is achieving at the right level
- We have developed a new curriculum for the children, and included their views and ideas
- We have introduced a new database, which allows us to monitor the progress children are making on a regular basis
- We have improved the environment that children work in, with newly painted classrooms, a clean environment, and better resources



## WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

- Continually monitor teaching and learning, including lesson observations and checks of pupils work to make sure that standards are improving
- Improve our homework policy, to involve you in supporting your child at home
- Improve teacher assessment methods, so that teachers can accurately assess pupil levels, and pinpoint steps for improvement
- Improve the use of technology in school, with laptops for use in the classrooms, and a multi-media suite
- Continue to improve the learning environment and invest in quality resources for the children

“ My child now looks forward to coming to school to learn ”

**Comment in Parent Council**



# 2

## Improved behaviour & attendance

**BEHAVIOUR** - We have already seen a great deal of improvement in the behaviour at Henry Fawcett, but Ofsted noticed a small group of children misbehaving in some lessons. This then had an impact on the learning for other children.

### WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

- Introduced routines and systems such as lining up in the morning and evening, to make behaviour expectations clear to the children
- Improved provision at playtimes to make sure children are occupied, rather than getting into trouble. This includes employing two sports coaches
- Improved the atmosphere in the lunch hall, which is now calm and orderly
- Introduced a report card for children who misbehave more persistently

### WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

- Focus on learning behaviour in the classroom, so that all children are ready to learn
- Work closely with parents of children who misbehave, so that the children hear the same message from parents and school



“ We play together and they help us learn different games ”  
Brian - Purple Class



**ATTENDANCE** - Ofsted noted that we have put good systems in place to deal with attendance, however, we still fall too far below the borough average, and this needs to improve. If children are not in school then they quickly fall behind the others in their class.

### WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

- Worked closely with the LA attendance officers
- Implemented first day of absence calls for all unauthorised absences
- Set up meetings for those who are absent on a regular basis, and monitored this

### WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

- Continue with the good work already begun
- Work closely with parents to help us improve our figures
- Stop families taking holidays during term time

# 3

## Improved standards in the Early Years

**Ofsted found that provision in the EYFS was unsatisfactory. This is an area we had identified for improvement this year.**

### WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

- Combined the nursery and reception classes into one defined area, to maximise the use of resources
- Invested in new furniture and resources for the children
- Appointed the Acting Deputy (formerly Deputy Head of a successful Nursery and Children's Centre) as leader of the EYFS
- Improved the lesson planning in EYFS



### WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

- Complete staffing for the EYFS with a new phase leader and a new Early Years Educator
- Introduce a Key Worker system, with each adult responsible for a small group of children
- Introduce a new tracking system, to monitor progress of the youngest children
- Seek funding to improve the outdoor area, with new learning equipment, and to involve parents and children in the design process

# 4

## Improved communication with parents & carers

**We want to work closely with parents, carers and the wider community and we value your opinions. We noted from the parents and carer questionnaires that you are not clear of the priorities the new interim leadership has set. We want to improve this.**

### WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY DONE

- Started a Parent Council. This meets monthly and is open to all parents and carers. This is a forum for parents and carers to tell us how we are doing, and to share their ideas
- Sent out regular, high quality newsletters to keep you in touch
- Made sure the leadership team are present in the playground every morning and evening, and available for a chat
- Set up meetings three times a year to inform you about your child's progress, and to help you support your child at home



Attitudes have changed.  
Children's behaviour has improved noticeably

**Comment in Parent Council**



### WHAT WE INTEND TO DO

- Devise a home-school agreement with Parent Council
- Open a new reception area to welcome visitors – this will be open longer in the evening, and at key times during holidays
- Consult you on classes and courses you want us to run for you, and do our best to provide them
- Create a new parents and community room, available for you to use and run
- Involve the children in local and wider community events, and invite you to join

