

## **10. GOVERNORS' MONITORING VISIT POLICY - reviewed July 2023**

It is often difficult for busy governors to find time to be in school while it is in session but it is important that they are able to do this in order to gain a clear insight into what is happening within the school, how effective the school team is, at making further improvements in line with the school improvement plan, and how close what is seen is, to the school's vision and values.

It can be easy to fall into the trap of a referring to a school visit as a chance to "observe" teaching and learning - but, by doing so, you could be causing unnecessary confusion and stress. "Lesson observation has a specific meaning in a school context; it is an activity undertaken by school leaders in order to collect evidence about teachers' performance for the purpose of appraisal. This is, of course, a professional task and should be carried out by the Head Teacher or appropriate line managers.

It is important for those governing to avoid giving the impression that they are there to judge or inspect teachers' performance. It is key that when visiting the school, the protocol is followed and a clear focus understood and agreed by all involved.

Bersted Green Primary Governing Body are keen to continue to work in partnership with the pupils and school staff to enable them to gain a clear picture of how effectively the school is working. Staff recognise and value the role of the Governing Body as well as the contribution they make to the community, pupils and staff at Bersted Green.

Staff appreciate that the governors come to learn how the school is run and help.