

DEEP Schools' Partnership

We are very pleased to let you know that our school is among the first schools in Essex to have become a member of a "School-led Improvement Partnership". You may have seen the recent article in the Dunmow Broadcast which celebrated the fact that we have been awarded a grant of £25,000 to help fund our activities.

Our group will be known as the Dunmow Excellence in Education Partnership or "DEEP". It has nine primary schools; Dunmow St Mary's, Felsted, Great Bardfield, Great Dunmow, Great Easton, Moreton, Rodings, Stebbing, Thaxted and one secondary school; The Helena Romanes School. The schools have a long history of successful collaboration. The group is already active in providing initial teacher training, training for learning support assistants and joint training and development opportunities for all schools staff. The schools also work closely with Cambridge University in education research projects.

Providing high quality opportunities for children is a priority. Some children have already taken part in joint activities with other schools in the group this year such as the careers fair for year 5 children and internet safety talks for year 6. Children in Year 4 are getting ready for the concert in Thaxted Church after half term. Sports fixtures and festivals are organised through the partnership.

Schools in the DEEP partnership share common values and are committed to providing support and challenge to each other to achieve their ambition of all schools improving. All the schools are currently graded "Good" or better by OFSTED; the intention is to keep these gradings and to ensure that more schools are judged as "Outstanding" within the next few years.