8 October 2010

Mrs J Snead
Headteacher
Whitley and Eggborough Community Primary School
Learning Lane
Whitley
Goole
DN14 0WE

Dear Mrs Snead

Ofsted 2010−11 subject survey inspection programme: information communication technology (ICT)

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff, during my visit on 22 September 2010 to look at work in ICT.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text without their consent.

The evidence used to inform the judgements included: interviews with staff and pupils; scrutiny of relevant documentation; analysis of pupils' work; observation of two lessons, both of which were joint; and a short visit to the Early Years Foundation Stage.

At the time of the visit, the school was in the middle of a major building project.

The overall effectiveness of ICT is satisfactory.

Achievement in ICT

Achievement in ICT is satisfactory.

■ Pupils enter the school with levels of attainment which are below the national average. By the time they leave the school at the end of Year 6, their attainment is below average and they have made satisfactory progress. Pupils' achievement in communication and presenting

information is better, and their attainment in this area is broadly in line with the national average.

- Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities make the same satisfactory progress as their peers. This progress is supported through a variety of ICT resources which are adapted for the pupils' needs.

- Pupils, when using new technologies have a good understanding of what they need to do to keep themselves safe. There is work with parents in this area and pupils are supported through assemblies, ICT lessons and other lessons. In lessons, pupils use ICT responsibly.

Quality of teaching in ICT

The quality of teaching of ICT is satisfactory.

- Teachers are competent users of ICT. Good training provided for staff through staff meetings and on an individual basis has developed this.

- Assessment is accurate and completed regularly. The assessment of ICT is moderated across the school. However, it does not always provide pupils with clear guidance about what they need to do to improve their work.

- In lessons, pupils are often asked to complete the same work. This means that the resources do not always meet the needs and interests of all pupils and some of them do not complete the work.

Quality of the curriculum in ICT

The curriculum in ICT is satisfactory.

- The curriculum is enhanced through links with a local secondary school. These links allow for the provision of a wider curriculum, especially in Key Stage 2. In particular, pupils learn about control technology. This project enthused the pupils and they enjoyed it.

- The development of pupils' communication and presenting information skills and capability, throughout the curriculum, is strong. Aspects, such as data handling and data-logging, are less well developed.

- The ICT clubs enable pupils to develop their skills and capability in ICT in a variety of ways. Producing a newspaper allowed pupils to not only develop their ICT skills but also consider the aspects of running a business.

Leadership and management of ICT

Leadership and management of ICT are good.

- Self-evaluation is accurate. The strengths and weaknesses of ICT are known. A good action plan is in place to manage the weaknesses. Curriculum planning, lesson plans and pupils' work are monitored regularly. However, the monitoring of use of ICT resources does not

always focus on the impact of the resources on pupils' attainment and achievement.

■ The whole-school community is involved in the updating and changing of ICT equipment. In particular, pupils are involved actively in the purchasing of ICT equipment through the school council.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

■ improving the attainment and increasing the achievement of all pupils by:

- ensuring that the curriculum is balanced

- developing the use of assessment to ensure that pupils are aware of what they need to do to improve and can act on the information

- developing teaching so that resources used in the lessons meet the needs and interests of the pupils

- focusing the monitoring of ICT equipment in lessons to ensure that it has a positive impact on pupils' progress.

I hope that these observations are useful as you continue to develop ICT in the school.

As I explained previously, a copy of this letter will be published on the Ofsted website. It may be used to inform decisions about any future inspection. Except in the case of academies, a copy of this letter is also being sent to your local authority.

Yours sincerely

Tanya Harber Stuart
Her Majesty's Inspector