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Dear Parent

Newchurch-in-Pendle St Mary's Church of England Primary School: Ofsted's interim assessment

I am pleased to provide some important information about Newchurch-in-Pendle St Mary's Church of England Primary School.

As you may know, during its last inspection in September 2007, Ofsted inspectors judged your child's school to be good. Schools which are performing well are now inspected less often than other schools. This usually means that good schools are inspected once in five years, whilst satisfactory schools will be inspected at least once every three years.

Some good schools are inspected after three years; others may have their inspections put back. To help decide whether we can wait longer than three years before undertaking a full inspection of a good school, Her Majesty's Inspectors look at, and evaluate, various sources of information, as listed below. This is called an 'interim assessment.'

The results of the interim assessment

In carrying out the interim assessment, we considered the following:

- pupils' academic performance
- pupils' attendance
- any inspection visits carried out by Ofsted since the last routine inspection
- qualifying complaints[1] about the school by parents or carers
- any other significant concerns brought to Ofsted's attention.

[1] Ofsted has specific powers (under section 11A-C of the Education Act 2005, as amended) to investigate certain complaints, known as qualifying complaints.

I am pleased to inform you that our interim assessment shows that the school's performance has been sustained and that we can defer its next full inspection.

As a result, the next full inspection will not take place any earlier than the summer term 2012 unless we receive information in the course of the coming year that causes us to inspect earlier.

I wish everyone involved in the school continued success in the future.

Yours sincerely



Christine Gilbert