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Mrs A Brandrick
Headteacher
Leintwardine Endowed CE Primary School
Watling Street
Leintwardine
Craven Arms
SY7 0LL

Dear Mrs Brandrick

Ofsted monitoring of Grade 3 schools: monitoring inspection of Leintwardine Endowed CE Primary School

Thank you for the help which you and your staff gave when I inspected your school on 11 July 2011, for the time you gave to our phone discussions and for the information which you provided before and during the inspection. Please also thank the pupils who I met, and the School Improvement Partner and the Chair and Vice Chair of the Governing Body for also talking to me.

Since the previous inspection there is a new Chair of the Governing Body.

As a result of the inspection on 2 and 3 February 2010, the school was asked to address the most important areas for improvement which are set out in the annex to this letter.

Having considered all the evidence, I am of the opinion that at this time the school has made good progress in making improvements and good progress in demonstrating a better capacity for sustained improvement.

Achievement has improved since the last inspection. From the lesson observations, the school's tracking data and teacher assessments, pupils make good progress in class and are on course to achieve their challenging targets by the end of Key Stage 2. While their attainment is likely to be broadly average across all subjects, there has been an improvement in the number of pupils achieving the higher levels in English and mathematics. This represents good progress for pupils, whose attainment on entry to the school is below national averages. Attainment in writing, especially for boys, remains a weakness.

The headteacher has implemented a wide range of strategies to monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching and pupils' learning in class. She regularly observes

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teachers working in their classrooms and tracks their performance over time to ensure that the quality of teaching across the school improves. The School Improvement Partner has assisted well with some monitoring of teaching and learning. Consequently, the pace of lessons is brisk and pupils are given good opportunities to think things out for themselves. The quality of teaching has improved and most of it is now good or better.

Pupils' behaviour remains exemplary and pupils listen attentively and work hard when asked. This is because teaching is more highly focused on the needs of the individual pupils and lessons have been made more exciting and relevant. Pupils say they greatly enjoy coming to school. The curriculum is well balanced and pupils enjoy learning through a range of topics and themes.

There is clear evidence in the school of improved rigour in marking and in written feedback to pupils. The use of assessment information and tracking procedures for monitoring pupils' progress across the school have also improved. All teachers are committed to this and teachers demonstrate their thorough knowledge of individual pupils in their class. Lesson planning is more detailed and is used as a working document so that teachers can plan the next stages in learning. Teaching assistants are deployed well and, in the best examples, support groups effectively following the teachers' instructions.

The headteacher has successfully worked to introduce strategies to improve teaching and learning and improve achievement across the school. She is committed to improving the performance of all teachers and has received additional support from the local authority. The reorganised governing body has begun to challenge the school more effectively and it understands better how to use assessment information to be evaluate how well pupils perform. The improvement in attainment, progress and in the rigour of monitoring all demonstrate that the school has made good progress towards improving the capacity for improvement by the next inspection.

I hope that you have found the inspection helpful in promoting improvement in your school. This letter will be posted on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Peter Limm
Her Majesty's Inspector

Annex

The areas for improvement identified during the inspection which took place in February 2010

- Raise pupils' standards and progress by September 2010 through:
 - ensuring teaching has better pace and gives pupils more opportunities for independent learning
 - ensuring marking gives pupils consistently good advice about how their work could be improved
 - monitoring teaching with greater rigour, identifying areas for each teacher to address, and so raise its overall quality
 - ensuring governors check up on the school's academic and other performance thoroughly to enable them to challenge the school more rigorously.