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20 October 2010

Mr S Everson  
Headteacher  
The Skinner's School  
St John's Road  
Tunbridge Wells  
Kent  
TN4 9PG

Dear Mr Everson

**Ofsted 2011–12 survey inspection programme: a review of anti-bullying practice in schools**

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and students during my visit on 30 September 2011 as part of our survey of schools' work to create a positive school culture and prevent and tackle bullying.

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.

This letter briefly summarises our discussion at the end of the visit.

**Strengths of this aspect of the school's work**

- Students know and understand the schools values and link them closely with the code of conduct. They feel safe and supported in school and are confident in seeking out the help of adults when necessary.
- The school has been responsive in its curriculum design to requests made by individual students. There are good examples of where the school has tailored the curriculum according to the needs of specific year groups.
- Students feel that the card and merit system for poor and good behaviour helps teachers to remind students frequently about what is expected of them and to praise them for meeting these expectations.
- Teachers are confident in being able to challenge any bullying that may occur in the school.

**Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:**

- critically evaluating the quality of the personal, social, health and citizenship education curriculum to assess its effectiveness in consistently promoting the school's values and ethos
- analysing the incidents of bullying to identify trends in students' behaviour; take action accordingly; and ensure that governors are well informed about this aspect of the school's work.

I hope that this visit has been useful in the further development of this aspect of the school's work.

As 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. A copy of this letter is also being sent to your local authority.

Yours sincerely

**Samantha Morgan-Price**  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**