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## 21 November 2011

Mrs A Lombardi Headteacher The Giffard Catholic Primary School Hordern Close Hordern Road Newbridge WV6 OHR

Dear Mrs Lombardi

## Ofsted 2011–12 survey inspection programme: a review of antibullying practice in schools

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 9 November 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

- The school's values underpin the 'Golden Rule' and are fully reflected in the behaviour and anti-bullying policies. The 'Golden Rule' is effective because it is clear, simple and applies to all relationships within school and the wider community. In 'treating others as you wish be treated', all adults and pupils know and understand that they should treat each other with respect, dignity and consideration.
- The 'Golden Rule' has a high profile across the school and is used consistently to drive positive relationships and behaviour. All classrooms display this rule, while whole-school assemblies and class discussions focus on pupils' positive behaviour. As a consequence, pupils and adults have a consistent understanding of how they should behave and interact with each other. This makes a considerable contribution to the caring and harmonious relationships within the school.
- The curriculum effectively promotes pupils' personal development because it enables pupils to consider how their actions affect others and to reflect upon diversity. The curriculum is responsive to the families it serves. For

- example, links have been established with a school in a different country to support the needs and interests of newly arrived pupils.
- Pupils say that bullying rarely happens. Most have a clear understanding of what to do if they are a victim of bullying. Pupils understand how bullying can affect others. They know why some words are unacceptable and they have a clear understanding that they should not be bystanders to any act of bullying.

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

- ensuring that bullying incidents are clearly identified in the behaviour log and analysing any incidents of bullying to identify whole-school issues or gaps in provision
- reviewing the systems for monitoring the personal, social, health and emotional aspects of the curriculum to ensure that provision is systematically delivered across the school and to identify further opportunities for pupils to learn about different types of bullying
- developing adults' skills and knowledge in identifying and tackling different types of bullying.

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

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

Yours sincerely

Joanne Olsson Her Majesty's Inspector