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Mr N Hoare
Headteacher
St George's School
Sun Lane
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Hertfordshire
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Dear Mr Hoare

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 8 December 2011 as part of our survey of schools' work to create a positive school culture and prevent and tackle bullying. Please pass on my thanks to the staff and students who kindly gave of their time to meet me.

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

- St George's is a highly inclusive school in which diversity is celebrated, respected and valued. The school has a strong tradition of pastoral support enabling students to feel safe and cared for.
- Senior leaders and staff understand well the effect that bullying and feelings of social exclusion have on self-esteem and achievement. The school's anti-bullying and equal opportunities policies are well understood and consistently applied by all staff. Policies clearly identify different types of bullying including cyber and homophobic bullying and focus on prevention as well as how to deal with incidents appropriately and sensitively.
- The school's strong stance on all types of bullying is supported well by the governors and the chaplain.
- Through discussions in lessons, assemblies and visitors to the school, students have developed a good awareness and understanding of the

consequences of prejudiced-based bullying. As a result, they are supportive, welcoming and non-judgemental in their attitudes to others.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- revisiting policies and practices to include transgender issues.

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

Janet Palmer
Her Majesty's Inspector