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Mr S Hall  
Executive Headteacher  
Orchard Primary School  
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Dear Mr Hall

### **Ofsted 2012–13 subject survey inspection programme: enterprise education in primary schools**

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit with Penny Spencer Additional Inspector, on 23 May 2012 to look at work in enterprise education.

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.

The evidence used to inform the judgements included: interviews with staff and pupils; scrutiny of relevant documentation; analysis of pupils' work; and observation of six lessons.

The overall effectiveness of enterprise education in promoting pupils' economic and business understanding and enterprise and financial capability is outstanding.

### **Achievement in enterprise education**

Achievement in enterprise education is outstanding.

- Given their starting points, pupils' achievement in basic skills is outstanding. Pupils' attainment in English and mathematics is above average. In the lower years, pupils have good communication skills in French. All of this contributes to the development of important employability skills.
- At an appropriate level for their age, pupils are very well informed about a wide range of occupations and career choices due to the wide variety of adults visiting the school. The school has very strong links with local small

businesses as well as multi-national companies based in the City of London.

- The school provides well-managed opportunities for pupils to use their own initiative and develop organisational skills in both mini-enterprise activities and charity work. These activities help pupils to develop their self-confidence, communication and team-working skills.
- The school builds on the wide variety of cultures among its pupils to broaden pupils understanding of different countries. Occasionally opportunities may be missed to develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness, for example when exploring the implications of business activity in relation to chocolate production.

### **Quality of teaching in enterprise education**

The quality of teaching in enterprise education is outstanding.

- Teaching across the curriculum relates learning to real-world contexts. Teachers have high expectations of pupils and set challenging tasks. Adults give good support to help all pupils to understand the tasks. Many adults from the world of business visit the school to help pupils with their learning.
- In all lessons, and at both key stages, teachers are committed to encouraging pupils and providing them with opportunities to develop enterprise-related skills, including decision-making, problem-solving, communication and team-working.
- Teachers provide good opportunities for pupils to develop their ideas and understanding through discussion with the teacher and with their peers.
- Information and communication technology is highly innovative and is used exceptionally well as a tool to enhance teaching and learning.
- The environment for the Early Years Foundation Stage gives pupils many day-to-day opportunities to become familiar with the economy and world of work through, for example, the doctors' surgery, fruit and vegetable shop, pet shop and car wash.

### **Quality of the curriculum in enterprise education**

The quality of the curriculum in enterprise education is outstanding.

- The promotion of enterprise-related skills is an integral part of the curriculum and many excellent opportunities exist for all pupils. The annual 'work week' provides a range of age-related activities. There were visitors from the fire brigade, ambulance service, authors, bus drivers and the 'safer neighbourhoods' team as well as trips to the Bank of England, restaurant chains, a major supermarket and the Women's Library. Year 6 prepared entrepreneurial projects to present to a panel in a Dragons' Den-type presentation.

- Links with the local community, businesses and other adults are very strong and are used very effectively to enhance the provision for enterprise education and to enable pupils to learn about different jobs.
- Pupils are taken on trips to universities, including the University of Cambridge. The school has been successful in raising aspirations early so that pupils are already focused on challenging careers by the time they reach secondary school.

### **Effectiveness of leadership and management in enterprise education**

The effectiveness of leadership and management in enterprise education is outstanding.

- You and your senior leaders are passionate about increasing pupils' life chances and raising aspirations. A wide variety of visits and school-based activities helps. Partnership work with local businesses and City institutions to support employability skills and enterprise education is very strong.
- Partnership work with parents and carers receives very positive feedback. As one parent said, 'Financial training and budgeting made a real difference to how I manage my money'. Another commented on how the school's help with job applications enabled them to be successful, while another commented, 'This will really help me to help my children with money'.
- Evaluations by teachers and pupils are used very effectively to review provision in this area. Outcomes are reported to governors well.

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

- ensuring that teachers fully exploit opportunities to develop pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness when covering enterprise-related topics.

I hope that these observations are useful as you continue to develop enterprise education in the school.

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

**Adrian Lyons**  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**