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Ms H Almond
Headteacher
Frenchwood Community Primary School
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Dear Ms Almond

Ofsted 2012–13 subject survey inspection programme: physical education (PE)

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 12 June 2012 to look at work in PE.

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 subject documentation and the observation of three lessons.

The overall effectiveness of PE is good.

Achievement in PE

Achievement in PE is good.

- From below average starting points, pupils make good progress to reach broadly average standards of attainment in PE.
- Pupils enjoy PE and are very enthusiastic about the range of activities on offer. They demonstrate their skills confidently and respond well to teachers. However, pupils' skills in evaluating and improving are less well developed than other aspects of PE because, in some lessons, they have limited opportunities to consider how they could improve their performance or the performance of their peers.

Quality of teaching in PE

The quality of teaching in PE is good.

- Teachers are infectiousy enthusiastic about the subject and pupils respond very well to this. Assessment is beginning to be used to ensure that lessons are planned with the needs of individuals in mind.
- Lessons are almost always very well paced with plenty of opportunities for pupils to work hard and develop aerobic fitness. Pupils regularly develop skills with effective guidance from teachers and sports coaches.
- Opportunities are missed for pupils to reflect on how they could improve their own work. The use of information and communication technology to support this is underdeveloped.

Quality of the curriculum in PE

The quality of the curriculum in PE is good.

- The school's long-term plan shows effective coverage of the six areas of learning. Pupils talk enthusiastically about the different areas and can point to exciting opportunities they have had to engage with each.
- Partnership with other schools, clubs and charities are a significant strength in providing a wide range of additional activities, both within and beyond the curriculum. One example of this is the work the school does with a local sport charity which provides coaches to run several well-received enrichment clubs.
- Pupils develop a love of sport because of the range of activities on offer and the high profile sport has in the school. The school has made efforts, along with its partners, to provide a broad range of enrichment opportunities so different interests are provided for.

Effectiveness of leadership and management in PE

The effectiveness of leadership and management in PE is good.

- Leaders know the effectiveness of PE. Self-evaluation is accurate and subject improvement planning shows insight. Teachers and leaders review the quality of PE and teachers are very open about the areas they have identified to improve. Leaders are successful in brokering support and guidance for teachers when areas are identified. However, the monitoring of the quality of teaching is limited and, as a result leaders rely too much on teachers' own evaluation to identify their professional development needs.
- Work to develop the impact of partnerships in PE is very strong. Much work has been done to build upon the work done previously by the school sports partnership. As a result the work of partners in school, teaching and professional development opportunities have improved significantly.
- The school has made good use of the limited space it has for PE and school sports. All areas are used effectively and additional partnerships are being formed to provide additional physical resources. For example, the school has recently brokered the use of the athletics facilities at a local university for sports day.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- providing opportunities for pupils to record and evaluate their performance and the performance of their peers
- developing strategies for leaders to monitor the quality of teaching first hand so they can offer advice and guidance to teachers on how to improve their practice further.

I hope that these observations are useful as you continue to develop PE 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

Michael Sheridan
Her Majesty's Inspector