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23 November 2012

Mr Paul Ryan
Headteacher
Potters Green Primary School
Ringwood Highway
Coventry
CV2 2GF

Dear Mr Ryan

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Potters Green Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 21 November 2012, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report on the findings of my visit. Thank you for the help you gave me and for the time you made available to discuss the actions you are taking to improve the school since the most recent section 5 inspection.

The visit was the first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in September 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher and deputy headteacher, other leaders, members of the governing body and pupils. The school's external consultant was contacted by telephone and the development plan was evaluated. Senior leaders accompanied the inspector on a tour of the school. Year 6 pupils' written work was seen as evidence of the introduction of a new handwriting scheme.

Context

There have been no contextual changes since the section 5 inspection.

Main findings

The school has pressed ahead with its improvement plans which are closely aligned to the priorities identified at the September inspection. The format is easy to follow with clear milestones for checking progress and deadlines for completion. Actions

identified are well-chosen with criteria against which the school can measure its progress. All leaders, including governors, are involved in monitoring the school's progress to ensure a faster and sustainable rate of improvement. The school has introduced a new scheme for handwriting which already shows signs of improving the quality of pupils' written work. However, there are still too few opportunities for pupils to write at length during the week. Targets set for pupils' progress in English and mathematics are above national expectations - but they are achievable. Staff have received training and help to plan suitable work for more-able pupils. Governors are aware of what they need to do to ensure that they gather evidence to demonstrate their involvement in monitoring the school's work and how to evaluate staff performance so that they are able to hold leaders to account appropriately.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following the visit to the school, HMI recommend that further action is taken to:

- ensure that the governing body knows how pupil premium funding is spent and is able to measure how well this is helping to close the gap in achievement for this group.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the school until its next section 5 inspection.

External support

The local authority has brokered consultancy support to help the school devise and monitor a suitable format for its improvement plan and ensure that there is no slippage. In addition, support is being provided to help teachers to plan more effectively. Leaders of mathematics have received helpful support to revise the school's policy on the use of mental and written methods for calculations.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for Coventry.

Yours sincerely

Linda Killman
Her Majesty's Inspector