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## PROTECT-INSPECTION

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Post-inspection note of visit letter – schools requiring improvement monitoring inspection visits  
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22 November 2012

Mr Kevin Gaiderman  
Headteacher  
Selston High School  
Chapel Road  
Selston  
Nottingham  
NG16 6BW

Dear Mr Gaiderman

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Selston High School**

Following my visit to your school on 20 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, senior leaders and representatives of the Governing Body. A telephone conversation was held with a representative of the local authority. The school improvement plan was evaluated. A meeting was held with the school council and with a group of subject and pastoral leaders.

### **Context**

Since the last inspection, changes have been made to the leadership of English and humanities. New appointments have been made for January.

### **Main findings**

The headteacher is providing strong and determined leadership and has ensured all members of the school community are very clear of their roles and responsibilities in addressing the weaknesses identified at the last inspection. Action plans are sharply focussed on all the required areas for improvement and include plans to strengthen further those aspects of the school's work that are already good. Subject leaders and year heads leaders particularly appreciate the timeline that sets out clearly their responsibilities to ensure all deadlines are met. Targets are very challenging, but not intimidating.

A rigorous process for monitoring the quality of teaching through lesson observations is in place. Those conducting the observations have been trained to ensure their judgements are consistent and accurate. They are also observed giving feedback to ensure it is suitably developmental. Determined action has been taken to eradicate inadequate teaching. All teachers have clear development plans that include a compulsory literacy target and which are tightly linked to their performance management. All staff have been involved in developing a clear set of criteria for judging the quality of teaching. This makes a strong contribution to consistency and allows professional development opportunities to be tightly matched to individual needs.

The governors understand the strengths and weaknesses well and have organised a structure that will enable them to challenge and support even more effectively. They are keen to develop their understanding of data in order to know the right questions to ask to ensure students make better progress in all subjects. 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:

- further strengthen the growing ability of middle leaders to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of provision in their areas of responsibility
- embed the strategies to develop the quality of teaching and learning across the school
- enhance the ability of governors to challenge the school through a clear understanding of nationally available data on students' progress.

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

### **External support**

The local authority is providing support for the school through focused reviews and is providing specialist support in English, modern languages and humanities.

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

**PROTECT-INSPECTION**



Yours sincerely

Elaine Taylor  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**