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27 November 2012

Selwyn Primary School
Cavendish Road
Highams Park
London
E4 9NG

Dear Ms Okoye

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

Following my visit to your school on 27 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 other senior leaders, the Chair of the Interim Executive Board (IEB) and a representative of the local authority. The school's post-Ofsted action plan was evaluated.

Context

There has been an increase in the school roll since it was inspected.

Main findings

The executive headteacher provides effective leadership and management with a sharp focus on improving teaching. The new senior and middle leadership teams are quickly getting to grips with how well the school is doing and what needs to be improved. Middle leaders feel well supported in taking on new responsibilities. The school's self-evaluations are accurate and rigorous. The executive headteacher ensures that members of the IEB are kept well informed progress since the

inspection. The IEB has played a crucial role in school improvement. It carefully monitors the school improvement plan and is actively exploring options for the future. It has a robust and pragmatic approach to ensuring long term success. The school continues to work effectively with parents and keeps them informed about how well the school is doing and how they can support their children's learning at home. Partnerships with outstanding schools have been particularly successful and support inspection priorities such as improving teaching and particularly the teaching of reading and phonics, (letters and the sounds they make), very well.

The senior leadership team's regular monitoring of teaching does not always refer explicitly to the areas for improvement from the last inspection report.

Senior leaders and the interim executive board are taking effective action to improve the school and address the areas for improvement identified at the time of the last inspection.

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

External support

The local authority has supported the school through brokering the appointment of a successful executive headteacher, establishing an experienced interim executive board and supporting partnership arrangements with successful schools. While the support of the local authority improvement consultant is valued by the school, monitoring lacks a sufficiently sharp focus on areas for improvement from the last inspection report.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Interim Executive Board and the Director of Children's Services for Waltham Forest.

Yours sincerely

Robert Lovett
Her Majesty's Inspector