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22 November 2012

Dawn Martin
Headteacher
Gossops Green Community Primary School
Kidborough Road
Crawley
West Sussex
RH11 8HW

Dear Mrs Martin

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Gossops Green Community Primary School, West Sussex

Following my visit to your school on 22 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, other senior leaders, including the deputy headteacher, leader of mathematics and leader of English, members of the governing body, a representative of the local authority and a small group of pupils. The school improvement plan was evaluated and the latest pupil progress information was discussed. I accompanied the headteacher on a tour of the school to look at the learning environment and discuss the school's strengths and improvement priorities.

Context

There have been a number of teaching staff changes since the last inspection.

Main findings

The headteacher and senior leaders have planned training for teachers to support improvements in the quality of teaching. Work to enrich reading in the school has been undertaken and the range of books available for pupils has increased. There has been some success in improving writing skills and reading and mathematics remain a high priority. The school's development plan shows a high priority on improving teaching. There are a range of things planned to make sure teachers check how much pupils are learning throughout the lesson and build on this to increase progress.

The school leaders and governors have a clear understanding that a rapid pace of change is still needed to move the school forward. Governors are looking at how they can challenge and support the school more effectively particularly considering how well all staff are fulfilling their roles and how they can be supported further.

Senior leaders and governors have begun to take 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:

- refine plans to focus more clearly the steps needed to accelerate the progress of pupils particularly those currently in Year 6, and to help prioritise teachers' work load.

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

External support

The local authority has made an advanced skills teacher support available to the school and this has been used to help teachers improve lessons. This support has been extended to four further days of support next term.

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

Yours sincerely

Paul Scott
Her Majesty's Inspector