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4 December 2012

Mrs Jayne Day  
Headteacher  
Coomb Briggs Primary School  
Royal Drive  
Immingham  
DN40 2DY

Dear Mrs Day

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Coomb Briggs Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 3 December 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, the assistant headteacher, the Chair of the Governing Body and two other governors, an independent school improvement consultant and two representatives from Serco Education. The school improvement plan was evaluated. A range of other documentation was also reviewed.

#### **Context**

There have been no staffing changes since the September inspection.

#### **Main findings**

Since the September inspection, a number of initiatives have been put in place by the headteacher. These include lesson observations which focus on particular aspects of teaching and learning and a common style of lesson planning sheet for teachers to use. Teachers are expected to contribute information during regular meetings to discuss the progress their pupils are making. Consequently monitoring

takes place but without a clear focus and accurate assessment resulting from this work. A post inspection action plan has been written. However, the action planning is imprecise and the checking of teaching is not linked clearly to the progress pupils are making.

Governors receive information from leaders about pupils and the quality of teaching, but this is vague and does not provide them with a detailed picture. Training for governors has taken place which has increased their knowledge and enabled them to ask detailed and challenging questions more effectively. Nevertheless the information governors receive is not good enough to enable them to evaluate the work being done.

Senior leaders and governors are not taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the last section 5 inspection and plans are not sharply focused on rapidly bringing about improvement. The school should take immediate action to:

- sharpen the action plan to include regular milestones and numerical targets so that leaders and governors can judge whether actions have been successful and if they are leading to pupils' improved progress
- ensure that feedback from the headteacher to teachers focuses on the achievement of different groups of pupils
- synthesise the results of the different monitoring activities to ensure they provide a clear picture of their impact on pupils' progress
- find opportunities for senior leaders to visit schools where they can observe good practice.

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

### **External support**

Leaders continue to develop effective use of links they have made with other schools so that discussions can take place, for example between literacy coordinators. Since the previous inspection, Serco Education consultants are visiting the school regularly to check the quality of teaching and also, by involving other local headteachers, to broker visits to their schools for individual members of staff. Serco officers have also been instrumental in providing helpful training for governors. An external consultant provides regular support for the headteacher; it is hoped that this work will continue.

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

Yours sincerely

Marianne Young  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**