

Tribal
1-4 Portland Square
Bristol
BS2 8RR

T 0300 123 1231
Text Phone: 0161 6188524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T 0117 311 5319
Direct F 0117 315 0430
Direct email: matthew.parker
@tribalgroup.com



19 December 2012

Miss Diana Heath, Interim Headteacher
Miss Clare Seddon, Acting Headteacher
Coley Primary School
Wolseley Street
Reading
RG1 6AZ

Dear Miss Heath and Miss Seddon

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

Following my visit to your school on 18 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 October 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with the interim headteacher and acting headteacher, other senior leaders, members of the governing body, and a representative of the local authority. The school improvement plan was evaluated and the latest pupil progress information was discussed. The HMI 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

A new experienced governor has joined the governing body. There have been no other significant changes to the leadership or staffing in the school since the last inspection.

Main findings

The senior leadership of the school has established a clear improvement strategy that focusses on developing good teaching. Work has been successful in increasing pupils' engagement in their learning. Pupils are enjoying the opportunities to work more independently. Plans are encouraging greater focus to learning with an increased range of experiences outside of the school. The school is in a strong position to make use of their effective monitoring to support teachers through further coaching and mentoring.

Systems for tracking progress are developing and are becoming more useful to school leaders in helping them assess the impact of their work. The school are already focussing on more pupils achieving the higher levels in Year 6. The governors are aware of the sense of urgency needed to move the school forward. Leaders and staff at all levels demonstrate their commitment and passion for improving the school through their hard work. Governors are also aware of the need to develop systems further in the school to secure sustained improvements.

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:

- refine planning to ensure more pupils achieve the higher levels particularly in Year 5.

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

External support

The local authority is providing support and challenge for the senior leaders. There is a range of support for governors as they develop the strategic plans for the school's long-term future. The arrangements with the interim headteacher's school are ensuring that there is effective development of leadership across Coley Primary School.

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

Yours sincerely

Paul Scott
Her Majesty's Inspector