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18 December 2012

Mrs Carol Taylor Haslucks Green School Haslucks Green Road Shirley Solihull B90 2F1

Dear Mrs Taylor

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Haslucks Green School

Following my visit to your school on 17 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 headteacher, the Chair and members of the governing body and a representative of the local authority. The school's action plan was evaluated. The school's planning was reviewed, together with the minutes of the governing body's meetings, the impact of performance management and the school's monitoring activities and pupil tracking information.

Context

There are no significant changes in context since the last inspection.

Main findings

The school's development plan has been rewritten to more effectively link to the key issues identified in the previous inspection. There is an increased focus on pupils'

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progress. Milestones are identified termly, but they are not broken down into more frequent, smaller steps which would assist the school in achieving its targets. Both the mathematics and literacy coordinators have sharpened their action plans to better link to the key issues. There is a detailed programme of staff training planned to support the key issues.

A new tool for analysing pupil progress data has been introduced which has improved the gathering and use of data by the senior leadership team. The school's monitoring cycle has been tightened up to ensure senior leaders monitor the impact of mathematics across other subjects.

The governing body has reconfigured its committee structure to ensure there is a greater focus on pupils' progress. The governing body minutes reflect the increased attention to challenge, but do not always record what the initial question was and the follow up actions required. Currently no named governor has oversight of how the additional monies for pupils known to be eligible for free school meals are spent.

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:

- ensure that school development plans have more frequent, measurable milestones
- ensure that the governing body minutes identify the challenge governors
 make to the school and the actions they intend to take in the light of their
 questions, in order to more effectively hold the school to account for pupils'
 attainment and progress
- ensure that a member of the governing body has oversight of additional funding paid to the school for those pupils known to be eligible for free school meals.

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

External support

The local authority knows the school well and has regular discussions about the school's progress. Well thought through support is provided to the school to assist it in tackling the key issues identified in the previous inspection. The partner school is helping the school build its capacity for improvement.

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

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Yours sincerely

Michelle Parker **Her Majesty's Inspector**