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17 December 2012

Jan Seymour
Headteacher
Glebe Junior School
Hamlet Lane
South Normanton
Alfreton
DE55 2JB

Dear Mrs Seymour

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Glebe Junior 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, representatives of the governing body and the link adviser from the local authority. The school improvement plans were evaluated.

Context

There have been no significant contextual changes since the recent inspection which judged the school to require improvement.

Main findings

The school improvement plan has been suitably revised and a short term action plan devised. There is a strong emphasis on addressing the areas for improvement

identified in the recent inspection. Senior leaders have taken immediate action to strengthen lesson planning where required, develop opportunities for staff to share good practice, implement a whole-school approach to writing, and develop the roles of senior and middle leaders. All teachers have been observed since the recent inspection. Where lessons have required improvement, clear areas for development have been agreed and followed up promptly by senior leaders.

The governing body meets regularly to discuss the progress of pupils and the actions that need to be taken in order for the school to become good. They are increasingly involved in evaluating the work of the school.

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 recommends visiting the school again for two consecutive days to carry out a range of monitoring activities, including lesson observations.

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

External support

The local authority is providing good support to the school. Since the inspection, this support and guidance has been well tailored to meet the school's most urgent needs. The link adviser has coordinated a range of support, including the support of a local authority consultant to work with the Year 3 leader, as well as the literacy and numeracy leaders. The link adviser is holding regular review meetings to challenge school leaders and to check that actions being taken are having the desired effect.

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

Yours sincerely

Dorothy Bathgate
Her Majesty's Inspector