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25 January 2013

Headteacher
East Worlington Primary School
East Worlington
Crediton
Devon
EX17 4TS

Dear Mr Johnson,

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 to East Worlington Primary School

Following my visit to your school on Friday 25 January 2013, 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 November 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

HMI held meetings with the executive headteacher, the Chair of the Board of Directors, the deputy executive headteacher, assistant executive headteacher, and teaching staff. The inspector spoke informally with pupils as he visited them in their classes. HMI also evaluated the school development plan, discussed the management of teachers' performance and read sample reports from the school improvement partner's visits to the school.

Context

The academy is currently in the process of consulting with parents about proposals to educate all the Year 6 pupils within the academy at one location.

Main findings

The school's development plan has been incorporated into the overarching academy plan for all five schools. However, the school's development plan does not detail how actions for improvement will be measured for impact. Neither does the plan set regular times throughout the year to monitor progress or identify who will check on this work. The plan also lacks clear success criteria against which actions can be judged.

Senior leaders are aware of the challenges associated with leading and managing a variety of schools over a wide geographical area. They discussed with the inspector ways to secure continuity in teaching and a common culture for high achievement across the academy. Ways to check upon teachers' performance more regularly were also agreed. Overall, senior leaders and directors of the academy trust 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:

- produce an individual school improvement plan that clearly identifies the success criteria and milestones to monitor the progress towards achieving its targets
- ensure leaders at all levels understand their roles and responsibilities in raising pupils' achievement and are held regularly to account for improving the quality of teaching and pupils' progress
- introduce a robust system for regularly checking upon teachers' work and its impact on pupils' progress in acquiring their core literacy and numeracy skills.

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

External support

The school benefits from support provided from an independent school improvement officer as well as drawing regularly on leadership and teaching expertise from within the academy.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Directors for Chulmleigh Academy Trust.

Yours sincerely

David Edwards

Her Majesty's Inspector