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6 February 2013

Mrs J Ibbotson
Headteacher
Mytchett Primary School
Hamesmoor Road
Camberley
GU16 6JB

Dear Mrs Ibbotson

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

Following my visit to your school on 5 February 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

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher and other senior leaders, a small group of pupils, representatives of the Governing Body including the chair and a representative of the local authority. The school improvement plan was evaluated. A range of documents were looked at including samples of governing body minutes, monitoring by senior leaders and local authority reports of visit.

Context

There have been no significant changes since the section 5 inspection.

Main findings

The leadership team including the governing body recognise and accept the outcomes of the recent section 5 inspection. All senior leaders are aware of what the

school needs to do to improve. Planning for improvement is enabling the school to tackle the areas for improvement effectively. However, the overall targets for improvement are not sufficiently broken down into regular checkpoints over time, making it more difficult to gauge whether the school is on track to maintain its current trajectory of improvement. Measures to improve the quality of teaching, particularly strategies for improving the teaching and learning of reading in Key Stage 2 are already underway including lesson observations, monitoring of pupils' progress and professional development training for staff. The headteacher recognises the need to ensure that when analysing and reporting on the quality of teaching, there is a clear picture of what the proportions are with relation to the number of teachers as opposed to a percentage of lessons observed. Pupil's assessment information is collected and analysed appropriately and shared across the whole school. The governing body is in the early stages of developing a more robust approach to challenging and supporting the school leaders. There is a renewed emphasis on checking the quality of teaching and how much progress pupils are making.

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:

- strengthen the improvement plan through clarifying regular milestones and linking them closely to pupils' achievement for reading, writing and mathematics
- ensuring the analysis of the quality of teaching is based on different subjects and proportions of staff not just lessons observed

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

External support

The local authority is supporting the school effectively. This support includes regular monitoring visits are carried out by a school improvement advisor who is also working alongside the governing body, support visits by literacy advisors. Additional funding to support the improvement plan has also been provided

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

Yours sincerely

John Seal
Her Majesty's Inspector