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22 March 2013

Mrs D Bedford  
Headteacher  
Tadcaster East Community Primary School  
Grange Avenue  
Tadcaster  
LS24 8AN

Dear Mrs Bedford

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Tadcaster East Community Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 21 March 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 January 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

#### **Evidence**

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher and deputy headteacher, the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority. The school action plans were evaluated and a sample of teacher's lesson plans were scrutinised.

#### **Context**

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

#### **Main findings**

Senior leaders have a secure understanding of what needs to be done and have acted quickly to develop suitable plans to strengthen the quality of teaching. School plans include all of the areas for improvement. A structured programme of training

and coaching for teachers has begun. This draws appropriately upon best practice within the school and further afield. Actions to support and develop the role of support staff are also planned. The headteacher and governors have begun to clarify the responsibilities of senior staff. Challenging targets and more frequent checks on pupils' progress and teacher's planning are taking place. Leaders have also identified a need to extend their review of responsibilities more widely to encompass all staff to ensure that everyone is clear about the contribution they are expected to make to improve the quality of teaching and its impact on pupils' learning and progress.

An external review of governance has begun. Vacancies on the governing body have been filled and changes introduced to working methods to aid decision making. Governors are developing a plan to support them in strengthening their role in quality assuring the school's work.

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 actions and timescales in plans to clearly reflect the impact they are intended to have on pupils' learning and progress.

HMI and the school discussed and agreed that the school will attend an Ofsted seminar later this term.

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

### **External support**

The school is drawing well upon the external support provided to them by the local authority. The headteacher is using the examples of good teaching in local schools to improve the quality of teaching. Training and review of governance from the local authority is helping to build the capacity of the governing body.

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

Yours sincerely

Gina White  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**

The letter should be copied to the following:

- Lindsay Britton - Chair of the Governing Body

- Director of Children's and Young Peoples' Services North Yorkshire local authority
- The lead inspector