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11 April 2013

Mr Richard Stone  
Fosse Primary School  
Balfour Street  
Leicester  
LE3 5EA

Dear Mr Stone

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 to Fosse Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 10 April 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 on 20 February 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

#### **Evidence**

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher, a representative of the local authority and two representatives of the shadow governing body, which has been in place during the transition from an interim executive board to a full governing body which will take over in September 2013. The school action plans, records of monitoring and other school documents were evaluated.

#### **Context**

There have been no significant changes to the context of the school since the section 5 inspection, which judged the school to require improvement.

## **Main findings**

The headteacher, supported by other senior leaders is providing an effective steer to school improvement work. Improvement plans now identify more precisely the targets for improving the quality of teaching, pupils' attainment and the rate of pupil progress. The plans identify the correct actions to be taken. They don't always identify regular, clear and measurable points along the way to check on their success.

The systems in place to check on the quality of teaching and to make sure that all teachers are putting in place the actions that have been agreed have been strengthened. Suitable training and support is in place to help teachers and teaching assistants to improve the quality of teaching and learning. For example, to make sure that pupils get written and verbal feedback that helps them to improve their work. The school's monitoring evidence now clearly show how swiftly teachers are responding to the feedback and guidance they are given. Plans are in place to make sure that everyone has the opportunity to see what it is that the most successful teachers do to help pupils to learn as well as they can.

The headteacher makes his expectations clear and holds others in school to account for the quality of their work. Leadership roles are quite rightly beginning to be more widely shared. A small shadow governing body has kept a close eye on the work of the school, including checking first hand on the effectiveness of its work. Its members recognise the need to prepare and plan carefully, with the support of the local authority, for the transition to the new governing body in September 2013.

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:

- identify points in time to check on the success of improvement actions
- ensure members of the governing body have the skills and resources they need to carry out their role well.

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

## **External support**

The headteacher says he has valued highly the support offered by the local authority. Most recently, support has been given to strengthen the school development plan and the procedures for monitoring and evaluating the schools work. Other support is planned to develop leadership in the Early Years Foundation Stage, to improve pupils' writing and grammatical skills with the support of a local authority consultant.

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

Yours sincerely

Joanne Harvey  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**