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Bill Lord
Headteacher
Long Sutton Primary School
Dick Turpin Way
Long Sutton
Spalding
PE12 9EP

Dear Mr Lord

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

Following my visit to your school on 1 May 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 7 February 2013. 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, two members of the governing body, including the Chair, and a telephone conversation was conducted with a representative of the local authority. The school's action plan was evaluated. The school's latest progress data was also scrutinised.

Context

The school has appointed an assistant headteacher who is overseeing the development of literacy and numeracy in the school. He is also responsible for the development of marking and feedback across the school.

Main findings

Following the section 5 inspection, the school's leaders adapted the improvement plan to take in to account the recommendations within the report. The plan now clearly shows what steps are required and how they will be monitored and evaluated by leaders and the governing body. The governing body are closely monitoring the progress of the school against the plan and have a clear view of how the school is performing and are holding the leaders to account for this. Despite this, they continue to seek further training from the local authority to continue to build on their effectiveness.

Actions taken since the inspection have had a clear impact on the quality of teaching across the school and on the progress being made in lessons. The improved use of data has enabled teachers to focus their teaching more effectively on the pupils' individual needs. The school is now focussing on moving teaching which requires improvement to good and the good teaching to outstanding. Improvements in teaching are particularly evident in literacy where the recent changes have already provided more focus on planning and the modelling of writing. The review and introduction of a new marking and feedback policy has had an impact on how well pupils understand how to improve their 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:

- develop mathematics provision and staff expertise in this area to improve the quality of teaching of mathematics and strengthen teachers subject knowledge

HMI will provide support by:

- Undertaking joint lesson observations with senior leaders to target teachers who are regularly teaching good lessons so that discussions can be held about how the good teaching can be moved to outstanding. These observations will also be used to discuss how feedback can be used to promote better teaching.
- Meeting with the governors' scrutiny group to consider ways governors can continue to effectively monitor the progress of the action plan
- Monitoring the reports to governors and the headteacher's evaluations of the impact of the action plan. Headteacher to forward reports to HMI as they are produced

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

External support

The school has sought help from a variety of sources in the local authority and are using these well to supplement the work which is taking place in the school. This support is helping to impact on the areas where improvement is required. The support that is provided by the local authority's education adviser has validated the school's judgments.

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

Yours sincerely

David Muir
Her Majesty's Inspector