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2 May 2013

Lisa Sharratt
Glebelands Primary School
Farriers Gate
Chatteris
PE16 6EZ

Dear Mrs Sharratt

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Glebelands Primary School, Chatteris.

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 20 February 2013.

Evidence

During the visit, I held meetings with yourself and one assistant headteacher. I met the local authority adviser and three representatives of the governing body, including the chair. I evaluated the post-Ofsted action plans and looked at the new strategies and monitoring activities that you started after the inspection. We carried out brief visits to lessons and spoke to teachers and pupils about their work.

Context

There have been no significant changes to the school's context since the inspection.

Main findings

Soon after the inspection, with the timely support of governors, you swiftly took action to review your planning and re-focus monitoring procedures. Consequently, the school is making rapid progress towards becoming a good school. The school improvement and termly operational plans focus clearly on accelerating pupils' progress. Targets for good teaching and for pupils to make expected progress are

precise. You do not specify the proportions of outstanding teaching and for pupils to exceed expected progress in your plans. You have good systems in place to monitor progress and you are now ensuring that your evaluation of teaching is focusing on pupils' learning and outcomes. With your senior leaders, you are ensuring that there is no slippage in implementing the plan. As we visited classes, I noted that consistent approaches are used to provide pupils with clear targets on what they need to do to improve and this is already bearing fruit in improving writing and mathematics.

Governors quickly set up a post-Ofsted task group with the clear agenda of checking progress against the key issues identified at the inspection. Governors are highly knowledgeable and their expertise is useful to the school. They are refining their skills, for example, in understanding data to challenge your leadership team and gather objective evidence of improvements, independently of your senior leadership team. They are determined to tackle underachievement for all groups of pupils, including the more able children.

With the support of your governing body and staff, you are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following the visit to the school, I recommend that further action is taken to:

- Specify the targets for outstanding teaching and for pupils to exceed expected progress.

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

External support

The school welcomes the support and challenge that the local authority improvement adviser provides. Links with other schools enable staff to share outstanding practice. There is potential to broaden this further through partnerships with pre-school settings.

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

Yours sincerely

Marianick Ellender-Gelé
Her Majesty's Inspector