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Matthew Fuller  
Broomgrove Junior School  
Broome Grove  
Wivenhoe  
Colchester  
CO7 9QB

Dear Mr Fuller

**Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Broomgrove Junior School, Wivenhoe, Essex.**

Following my visit to your school on 10 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 in January 2013.

**Evidence**

During the visit, I held meetings with yourself and the deputy headteacher. I spoke to the local authority representative and met three governors, including the chair of the governing body. I evaluated the post-Ofsted improvement plan and your termly Raising Achievement Plans (RAPs) for the Spring and Summer term 2013. We carried out brief visits to lessons and spoke to pupils about their work.

**Context**

A new chair of governors took up post just after the inspection. There have been no other significant changes to the school's context.

**Main findings**

Your school is making reasonable progress towards becoming a good school. The improvement plan addresses clearly the main weaknesses identified at the last inspection. It is comprehensive. It would be wise to prioritise to avoid slippage on the key tasks that you want to achieve. Challenging time-scales are set for improvement and there is a strong focus on improving the quality of teaching rapidly.

With the support of the deputy headteacher and governors you are active in driving improvement. The school's new teaching and learning guidance sets clear expectation of what good and outstanding teaching must look like. Teaching assistants told me that they welcome their training and are more confident to support pupils in their learning. They see this as a significant improvement. In classes, we saw constructive marking in pupils' books, 'Fix-it' time that enables pupils to improve their work and the 'What we Are Learning Today (WALT)' to clarify the objectives of the lesson. Some aspects of teaching still require improvement, particularly the match of the work to pupils' ability. Links with the infant school require further strengthening. Staff should plan work in Year 3 to build on the skills and knowledge pupils' acquired in Year 2 and raise expectations so that better teaching accelerates learning in years 3 and 4. Subject leaders have a key role to play in this. They are very committed, but their capacity and skills to drive up standards are slow developing. They must set clear targets to improve standards across all years.

The governing body is better informed. Governors know how to check that the school is moving in the right direction. They readily access training and understand their role in monitoring staff performance.

You have begun to take effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following my visit to the school, I recommend that further actions are taken to:

- set specific targets to raise standards in years 3 and 4 and accelerate the rate of progress, building swiftly on pupils' learning and skills acquired in the infant school
- continue to use the Teachers' Standards to improve teaching and learning rapidly
- develop the skills of subjects leaders with more urgency.

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

### **External support**

You are establishing productive links with the infant school, such as joint-training for teachers to share expertise. Staff visit other schools to observe good practice. You participate in the local authority's 'Getting to Good' programme and belong to useful networks.

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

Yours sincerely

Marianick Ellender-Gelé  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**