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13 May 2013

Gordon McEwan
Head of Service
Haringey Tuition Centre
10 Bruce Grove
Tottenham
London
N17 6RA

Dear Mr McEwan

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 to Haringey Tuition Centre

Following my visit to your centre on Monday 13 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 centre since the most recent section 5 inspection.

The visit was the first monitoring inspection since the Haringey Tuition Centre 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 you, the Chair of the interim executive group and two representatives from the local authority. The centre post-inspection improvement plan was evaluated. Brief visits were made to classrooms to look at the impact of the actions which the centre staff have taken since the previous inspection. A range of documentation was reviewed, including the centre's self-evaluation, student timetables and information about the learners on the centre's roll.

Context

Since the previous inspection, one temporary teacher has left the centre and two permanent teachers have been appointed. A higher level teaching assistant has been redeployed from the local authority behaviour intervention team to lead on learner

behaviour and engagement. The management committee has been replaced by an interim executive group, with the intention of providing greater challenge to the centres' leaders and managers. A review of alternative provision in Haringey is being undertaken by the local authority and this has temporarily halted any further changes to staffing.

Main findings

The centre's improvement plan addresses all the areas for improvement identified in the recent inspection. The plan proposes appropriate actions and has sensible timescales. However, the plan would benefit from more measurable success criteria that can be used to judge if the proposed actions, once implemented, are making a difference.

The interim executive group is providing an appropriate balance of challenge and support. Members of the group analyse the information provided by the centre's leaders and local authority staff and make judgements about the progress that the centre is making towards becoming good.

The curriculum has been reviewed and revised so that from September 2013 students will have a wider range of courses which lead to accreditation to choose from, including GCSE science. Current students have just started an allotment project and there are plans for a vocational option which leads to a Level 2 diploma in horticulture.

A programme of observations and professional development opportunities has been drawn up and teachers and teaching assistants are starting to have better opportunities to share and develop their practice. The centre's marking policy has been revised and there is now an improved system to track the progress that learners are making. The intervals between the checks on learners' progress have been shortened so that teachers can quickly identify if learners are making sufficient progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities. A system of rewards has been implemented that recognises good attendance and the centre is continuing to work with a range of agencies to motivate learners to attend regularly.

Senior leaders and the interim management group 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:

- ensure that the centre improvement plan specifies how leaders will know that the actions proposed in the improvement plan are being successful.

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

External support

The local authority has provided interim arrangements to strengthen governance and is conducting a review of alternative provision. The local authority has also brokered the support of leaders from other local schools to aid improvement and is assisting the school in monitoring progress against the school's improvement plan. These actions have helped strengthen leadership and are helping to improve the quality of teaching and learning.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the interim executive group and the Director of Children's Services for Haringey. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Robert Ellis
Her Majesty's Inspector