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17 May 2013

Mr Andrew Sharp
Headteacher
Robin Hood Primary School
Beckhampton Road
Bestwood Park, Nottingham
NG5 5NA

Dear Mr Sharp

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

Following my visit to your school on 17 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, deputy headteacher and four staff with management responsibilities. HMI also met the Chair of the Governing Body and held telephone discussions with the local authority's primary adviser and a local leader in education. In addition to visiting classes with the school's leaders, the inspector met with two groups of pupils to discuss their learning and progress.

Context

Two members of staff are on family leave and have been temporarily replaced by a supply teacher and a teacher who is returning from leave.

Main findings

Senior leaders have already undertaken effective monitoring and accurate evaluations of the quality of teaching. Together with governors, leaders gather

accurate assessments of pupils learning and the data collected show that pupils are already making good progress and attainment is improving quickly as a result of mainly good teaching. Leaders have stepped up the intensity of monitoring to make sure that pupils are achieving as well as they should. The school's improvement plans have clear targets and measures of success that senior and middle leaders use to check the impact of the school's actions on improving teaching and learning further. The school now needs to build on this by training and coaching subject and phase leaders so they are sufficiently knowledgeable, confident and equipped to measure pupils' progress when observing teachers teach. Governors and teachers are keen to move the school forward and staff morale is very high. There is good and robust governance. Effective systems are already in place to link governors to staff with management responsibilities. A good range of monitoring activities undertaken by governors provides first-hand evidence of pupils' progress and teachers' performance. Governors are not complacent and have already started to build on this good practice by establishing a more focused scrutiny committee which intends to monitor and evaluate the school's actions even more closely and robustly.

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:

- focus the school's efforts now on sustaining the current improvements to teaching and training subject and phase leaders to measure the progress pupils make in lessons when monitoring teaching.

HMI recommends that this school receives its next section 5 inspection much sooner than normal as it is improving rapidly and is close to becoming a good school.

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

External support

The local authority has provided a good range of support that has included subject advisers and experts working alongside teachers and leaders. The local leader in education, a headteacher of a good primary school, has also worked with senior leaders to focus on improvement planning and evaluation.

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

Yours sincerely

Charalambos Loizou
Her Majesty's Inspector