

Tribal  
1-4 Portland Square  
Bristol  
BS2 8RR

T 0300 123 1231  
Text Phone: 0161 6188524  
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

**Direct T** 0117 311 5323  
**Direct email:** [suzy.smith@tribalgroup.com](mailto:suzy.smith@tribalgroup.com)



18 June 2013

Headteacher  
Nythe Primary School  
Nyland Road  
Nythe  
Swindon  
Wiltshire  
SN3 3RR

Dear Mrs Fry,

**Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Nythe Primary School, Swindon Local Authority.**

Following my visit to your school on 18 June 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 February 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

**Evidence**

During my visit I met with you, other senior leaders, members of the governing body, a representative of the local authority and a small group of pupils. I was taken on a learning walk around the school and spent some time looking at the school improvement plans and minutes from recent governing body meetings.

**Context**

Three teachers and one teaching assistant will be leaving the school at the end of the summer term. Four new teachers will take up their posts at the start of the new academic year. A much needed expansion to the governing body has resulted in five new governors being appointed. It is not yet quite at full capacity. A new class will be created at the start of the new academic year and a new special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCo.) has been appointed to cover a maternity leave.

## **Main findings**

As highlighted above, the school is about to enter into a period of significant change. However you are managing the impact of these changes well and have wasted no time in incorporating the areas for improvement identified at the time of the previous inspection into the school's improvement plan. Together with your senior leaders you have introduced a programme to bring about improvements to teaching and learning throughout the school. You are making good communication a priority at this time to ensure all concerned play their part in making the necessary changes a success. You have successfully introduced greater rigour in monitoring the quality of teaching in order to address the inconsistencies in teaching that are still evident in the school and have raised teachers' expectations for what pupils can achieve.

You and your assistant headteachers have begun the process of reviewing key policies, such as the school's Teaching and Learning policy which is designed to ensure teaching supports consistent and high expectations. You have also begun work on reviewing the curriculum that is better designed to motivate, challenge and inspire pupils to achieve highly, as well as motivate teachers and eradicate inconsistencies in the quality of teaching and learning.

The governing body has re-invented itself since the previous inspection. Governors are keen to take a more proactive role in the strategic leadership of the school. New members have been recruited and they bring with them a wide range of useful skills and abilities to support the school. The governing body has also undertaken training offered by the local authority. The training and support governors have received so far has already raised their awareness of how to hold the school more effectively to account.

In conclusion, 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:

- Ensure that the work of the school and the impact this is having on improving outcomes for pupils is set within a time frame that can be clearly understood, evaluated and acted upon by all concerned.

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

## **External support**

The local authority has offered very timely and effective support for the school. It is working closely in collaboration with other external partners to support your own

professional development as well as providing support and guidance to secure further school improvement.

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

Yours sincerely

David Edwards

**Her Majesty's Inspector**