

CfBT Inspection Services
Suite 22
West Lancs Investment Centre
Maple View
Skelmersdale
WN8 9TG

T 0300 1231231
Text Phone: 0161 6188524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T 01695 566 857
Direct F 01695 729320
Direct email:
jkinsman@cfbt.com



18 July 2013

Mr Paul Baker
Headteacher
Burstwick Community Primary School
Main Street
Burstwick
Hull
HU12 9EA

Dear Mr Baker

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Burstwick Community Primary School, East Riding of Yorkshire

Following my visit to your school on 17 July 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 May 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with you, the maths lead, four members of the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. We discussed and evaluated the action plan and looked at the latest information about pupils' progress. We undertook a learning walk to observe any progress in teaching and learning since the inspection.

Context

There have been no changes to staffing since the last inspection and none are planned for September.

Main findings

The school's action plan is clear about what needs to be done, by whom and when. It has a useful, long term strategic overview with milestones and specific short term actions with dates for completion. There are measurable success criteria in relation to the quality of teaching and learning but not pupil performance.

Early work with a Local Leader in Education is demonstrating improvements in leadership. Systems for collecting, analysing and presenting data have improved. As a result, the headteacher was able to demonstrate and discuss in detail the latest information about pupils' progress. He was clear about the school's response to this and how this will inform improvement planning.

Work has begun on refining systems for managing teachers' performance. In our discussion we clarified the steps needed to raise standards in teaching and learning. There are clear plans to develop subject leadership in the foundation subjects. The actions are appropriate and manageable within the timescales set.

The school's leadership has taken action to improve teaching and learning. For instance, through our learning walk, we identified some improvements in the deployment and effectiveness of teaching assistants. However, the quality of teaching and learning remains variable because some staff are still not planning activities that meet the needs of all pupils. Some teachers are unclear about what they expect the pupils to achieve by the end of the lesson. We discussed how to check this through regular focused monitoring activities and feedback which will promote reflective practice and secure the improvements needed.

The governing body takes its role seriously and since the inspection has undertaken a self-audit of skills. It has set up a quality assurance working group to check on different aspects of the school's work. Some governors are able to question and challenge, but in order to do this; they need school leaders to provide them with appropriate information. A suitable plan has been produced to enable the Governing Body to check standards in mathematics and this will be a helpful model for monitoring standards in other areas. A review of the governing body and training on analysing RAISE online is due to be undertaken in the autumn term.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. The school should take further action to:

- Improve the action plan by: ensuring that the success criteria has measurable outcomes linked to pupil performance; increasing the percentage of expected good and outstanding teaching to reflect the teaching profile,
- Work with the Local Leader in Education to develop the writing of summary reports for governors to provide them with the information needed to make the necessary checks on the effectiveness of leadership, the quality of teaching and learning and pupil progress,

- Sharpen performance management procedures by: holding half termly pupil progress meetings in order to give teachers regular feedback on how well they are performing; ensuring teachers have measurable targets related to their roles and responsibilities and the analysis of the latest pupil performance data,
- Have focused, short term actions for individual staff to ensure that the 'non-negotiables' agreed are embedded in practice and to make regular checks on the effectiveness of the application of these in teaching and learning,
- Consider and implement effective methods of giving feedback to staff, including teaching assistants, to encourage reflective practice and optimise progress.

Ofsted may carry out further visits and, where necessary, provide further support and challenge to the school until its next section 5 inspection. HMI will have email and telephone contact with the headteacher during the autumn term to check on progress and will undertake a further monitoring visit in the Spring term 2014.

External support

Timely and appropriate support from the local authority is beginning to bring about the necessary improvements in leadership and management. Regular monitoring visits and the brokering of a Local Leader in Education and National Leader of Governance are all part of the support package provided.

The school is due to attend the Ofsted 'Getting to Good' seminar and HMI recommended that they access the 'Better Maths and English' training in the autumn term.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for East Riding of Yorkshire as below.

Yours sincerely

Anne Bowyer

Her Majesty's Inspector

The letter should be copied to the following:

- Cathryn Kirby Senior Her Majesty's Inspector
- The lead inspector.