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25 October 2013

Miss Jenny Sherry
Headteacher
Kingsway Junior School
Briar Road
WD25 0JH

Dear Miss Sherry

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Kingsway Junior School

Following my visit to your school on 24 October 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report 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 21 May 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

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

- *Ensure that the literacy marking, available in a variety of written formats, provides the pupils with easily accessible guidance.*

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with you, your deputy and other nominated staff, members of the Governing Body, and representatives of the local authority. The school improvement plan was evaluated. HMI invited senior staff to join the observation of a sample of teaching and the evaluations they offered concurred with the judgements given by the inspector. HMI also reviewed a sample of the children's work from the classes visited.

Context

Since the last Ofsted inspection in May 2013 five new governors have been recruited and the school is seeking to make one further appointment.

Six teachers left at the end of the summer term, including the deputy headteacher and the inclusion coordinator. The school is now fully staffed, a new deputy headteacher and an inclusion manager were appointed for the start of the autumn term.

Main findings

HMI visited two Year 6 lessons and observed effective teaching. In an outstanding mathematics lesson, pupils were challenged and nurtured through high level mathematics on mode, median and mean. Pupils made rapid progress because of the very clear explanations provided and the excellent match of tasks to the pupils' learning needs. Similarly in a good English lesson, the teacher's strong focus on writing, spelling and grammar was helping pupils make good progress.

Effective marking was seen in the pupils' books but where literacy work is completed in a number of formats, it is more difficult for pupils to use the guidance available.

The school improvement plan has a strong focus on the quality of teaching and this is being regularly checked against the progress being made in each teaching group.

Governance has been strengthened and the governing body has a wide range of expertise.

Ofsted may carry out further visits and, where necessary, provide further support and challenge to the school until its next section 5 inspection.

External support

Very effective support is available from the part-time consultant headteacher who visits the school regularly. Local authority monitoring visits provide an accurate commentary and insightful guidance.

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

Yours sincerely

David Jones
Her Majesty's Inspector