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4 December 2013

Mrs Wendy Grime
Headteacher
Redgate Community School
Redgate
Formby
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Merseyside
L37 4EW

Dear Mrs Grime

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Redgate Community School, Sefton

Following my visit to your school on 3 December 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 October 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

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:

- Ensure all parties involved in the improvement of the school share an honest evaluation of its current position. This will lead to a better capacity to sustain improvement.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with you, other senior leaders, representatives of the Governing Body including the Chair, and a representative of the local authority to discuss the actions taken since the last inspection. The school's action plans and other documentation relating to school improvement were evaluated. I visited every

classroom twice during the day and I examined a selection of pupil's English and mathematics books.

Context

There have been no contextual changes since the last inspection.

Main findings

In the eight weeks since the inspection you and your Governing Body, with support from the Local Authority, have drawn up, reviewed and amended the school's action plan. The plan is a comprehensive document that sets clear long term expectations for improvements that are directly linked to the last inspection. The plan is very precise with sharp targets and is well used by the Governing Body. However, you need to clarify your criteria for the red, amber and green evaluation.

The New Chair of Governors has started to have a significant impact on improving the quality of leadership. She realises that there is still some distance to travel on the journey to good. The Governing Body have higher expectations and now require robust information on school performance and the impact of actions.

Following the external review of governance, undertaken by the Local Authority, governors have identified appropriate priorities to improve their own skills and practice. They have organised useful training and links with other good schools.

Marking has improved since the last inspection. However advice to pupils on how to improve their work must be better.

Tracking of progress is improving. Teachers are now able to identify pupils who belong to specific groups and demonstrate the impact support is having. .

Attendance appears to be improving. The number of 'lates' are reducing. However, the new system only started on 25 November 2013 and it is too early for a full analysis.

There is a National Leader in Education working with the school whose focus is to develop the capacity of the school to sustain improvement.

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

The Local Authority continues to provide significant support for you. It is now working with your Governing body to ensure that they continue to raise the bar in terms of achievement, teaching and leadership.

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

Yours sincerely

John Nixon

Her Majesty's Inspector

The letter should be copied to the following:

- Appropriate authority - Chair of the Governing Body
- Local authority