

Serco Inspections  
Colmore Plaza  
20 Colmore Circus Queensway  
Birmingham  
B4 6AT

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

**Direct T:** 0121 679 9153  
**Direct email:** [naik.sandhu@serco.com](mailto:naik.sandhu@serco.com)



29 January 2014

Mr Julian Wilson  
Headteacher  
Haddon Primary and Nursery School  
Haddon Close  
Westdale Lane  
Nottingham  
NG4 4GT

Dear Mr Wilson

### **Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Haddon Primary and Nursery School**

Following my visit to your school on 28 January 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the findings. 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 November 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 a sharper focus is given to tracking the progress of the most able pupils so that any underachievement can be tackled quickly.

### **Evidence**

During the visit, meetings were held with you, other senior leaders, the Chair of the Governing Body and another governor, and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. School documentation, including the school improvement plan, was evaluated. During the visit, I had a tour of the

school where we visited each class and talked with pupils. I scrutinised a selection of pupils' work.

## **Context**

A class teacher has taken maternity leave and a part-time teacher already employed at the school has become full-time to cover the class.

## **Main findings**

You have responded quickly to the issues identified in the recent inspection. Both you and your deputy headteacher demonstrate a determination and commitment to improve the outcomes for the pupils. Your action plan is well organised, with well-defined roles for governors and school leaders. Actions to improve the quality of teaching are linked to quantifiable outcomes for pupils so that governors are able to challenge the effectiveness of the actions you are taking.

You have developed greater rigour in checking the progress pupils make and the quality of teaching. You use a range of evidence to inform your judgements. You are using the data about pupils' progress more systematically to plan for interventions to improve achievement. You are also using this evidence to hold teachers to account for their work. However, it is not clear in your data how well the most-able pupils are doing so work to improve the achievement of this group of pupils is not as effective.

Since the inspection, you have strengthened the role of your middle leaders. They are now checking the progress of pupils more regularly. They have a better understanding of how teachers plan to meet the needs of different groups of pupils. They are beginning to challenge teachers to improve their work and this is having a positive effect on pupils' learning.

Teachers' marking has improved, particularly in English. In this subject, it is more consistent across the school. Teachers' marking tells pupils how well they are doing and they have more opportunities to respond to comments made.

The governing body has responded rapidly to address the issues from the last inspection. Governors are resolute in their aim to improve the impact they have on improving outcomes for the pupils. Consequently, they are holding you and other senior leaders to account more rigorously. They quickly organised their own National Leader of Governance to review their work. This review has begun and, as a result, they are taking action to improve the quality of the reports they receive from you so they are able to challenge you more precisely. Governors have organised training because they are not fully confident to use their data to understand how well the school is doing compared to other schools nationally.

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 is providing effective advice to school leaders to improve the quality of teaching. It has identified support from a group of local schools to support improvements in mathematics and to support school leaders improve their work. It has also provided effective support in checking the quality of teaching and learning through lesson observations and by checking work in pupils' books.

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

Yours sincerely

Jan Connor  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**