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10 February 2014

Mr Simon Phillips  
Headteacher  
Rose Hill Primary School  
Derby Road  
Ipswich  
IP3 8DL

Dear Mr Phillips

### **Special measures monitoring inspection of Rose Hill Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 7 February 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the inspection findings. Thank you for the help you gave during the inspection and for the time you made available to discuss the actions which have been taken since the school's recent section 5 inspection.

The inspection was the first monitoring inspection since the school became subject to special measures following the inspection which took place in October 2013.

#### **Evidence**

During this inspection, meetings were held with the headteacher, governors and a representative of the local authority. Short visits were made to all the classes. The local authority's statement of action and the school's improvement action plans were evaluated.

#### **Context**

Since the previous inspection, a teacher has been seconded to the school.

#### **The quality of leadership and management at the school**

Since the previous inspection, school leaders have strengthened the procedures for collecting assessment information, managing the performance of teachers and

checking on the quality of teaching and learning. The school action plan is a helpful working document that identifies the correct priorities for improvement and the steps that need to be taken to achieve success. However, teachers' individual targets for improvement are not linked closely enough to the priorities to improve teaching and achievement in the development plan. This means it has not been made explicit enough to teachers what it is they need to improve so that they are contributing to meeting whole-school priorities.

Assessment information that has been checked for accuracy shows that standards in the current Year 6 are at the levels expected for their age. That means they are higher than they have been previously. Evidence from observations conducted by the local authority and the school demonstrate that there is a growing proportion of effective teaching.

Since the previous inspection, the headteacher has taken steps to strengthen management procedures. He must now demonstrate to the governors and the local authority that he can effectively lead the school out of special measures.

Governors now have a better understanding of their role and they have higher expectations of themselves and this school. They are not challenging the headteacher sufficiently to make the necessary improvements. Some of the governors demonstrate a determination to improve and are taking steps to equip themselves for better governance. Other governors are less effective, and are reputedly not demonstrating the required desire for the role.

The local authority statement of action is a helpful document for coordinating the actions, resources and personnel involved in supporting and challenging the school. The school welcomes the support and challenge that they receive from the local authority adviser. Regular visits are made to check school progress, but these do not sufficiently challenge the headteacher on the impact of his leadership. Specialists work effectively with the school to strengthen teaching.

Following the monitoring inspection the following judgements were made:

The local authority's statement of action is fit for purpose.

The school's improvement plan is fit for purpose.

The school may not appoint newly qualified teachers before the next monitoring inspection.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for Suffolk. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Tim Bristow  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**