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Bryan White
Headteacher
St Andrew's Primary School
Cullompton
Devon
EX15 1HU

Dear Mr White

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to St Andrew's Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 23 May 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 March 2014. 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 that assessment information in mathematics is accurate
- ensure that policies to support consistent teaching are adhered to by all staff
- simplify the improvement agenda.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with you and other senior leaders, the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. I toured the school and you explained your recent and planned developments. While at the school, I also examined a range of

documents, including pupil achievement information, evaluations of teaching, records of governor meetings and reports from the local authority. The school improvement plans were evaluated.

Main findings

The required improvements in teaching identified at the time of the recent inspection have continued to develop. Consequently, teaching is becoming more consistent and pupils are making better progress across the school. While a range of protocols have been introduced to support consistency, these are not adhered to consistently by all staff. Subject leaders are strong and benefitting from the support provided by the local authority. However, teacher assessment in mathematics is not yet accurate. As a result, pupils' starting points and the progress they make are not clear.

The governing body have met frequently since the inspection and have a clear understanding of their role in the school's improvement. They have established a detailed timetable of visits to the school. Governors have the skills they need to monitor the impact of the school's actions. However, inaccurate assessment information prevents governors from evaluating the schools' impact on mathematics.

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 school is making good use of the effective support offered by the local authority. The intensive support programme, in place since before the recent inspection, has enabled the governing body to improve their practice. As a result, governors are focused on holding the school to account for pupil outcomes and able to monitor the impact of the schools actions.

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

Yours sincerely

Phillip Minns
Her Majesty's Inspector