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10 October 2014

Miss Stella Burton
Headteacher
Beaumont Community Primary School
Durrant Road
Hadleigh
Ipswich
IP7 6GD

Dear Miss Burton

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Beaumont Community Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 9 October 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the inspection 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 June 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 there is sufficient challenge in every lesson for the most able
- check that pupils are responding to the advice given by teachers in their books and also monitor the quality of these responses
- train governors in the use of the new tracking system so that they understand school information better and can ask searching questions about the progress of pupils.

Evidence

During the inspection, meetings were held with you, the Chair of the Governing Body, and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since

the last inspection. The school's raising achievement plan and current information on the progress of pupils were scrutinised. Teaching was observed in all the classes. The school safeguarding procedures were also checked.

Context

The literacy and numeracy coordinators have rejoined the school following maternity leave.

Main findings

School leaders and governors have responded positively to the recommendations in the recent inspection report. A new tracking system has been introduced on which all staff have been trained. The new system will allow the school to track the progress of the pupils over time more accurately. The school has updated its mathematics scheme of work. A series of lesson observations and work scrutinies have been timetabled to enable subject coordinators to monitor progress in their areas. New books and a phonics programmes have been purchased and there has been a renewed focus on using the library resources by staff for pupils. The school is planning to monitor closely the progress of phonics and school staff have attended local authority training. It is too early to see the impact of these initiatives.

A new marking scheme has been introduced across the school but this is not yet being used consistently. The targets are not sufficiently refined so that pupils understand well enough what to do next to improve their work. The provision of challenging work for the most able pupils is not always explicit and pupils are not always offered work which is sufficiently challenging.

A review of governance has already taken place and the recommendations will be discussed at the next full meeting of the governing body. A small group of governors have been identified that will receive additional training on how to understand school information so they are better placed to ask questions and hold the school to account for the progress of pupils.

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 has received appropriate support from the local authority and accesses considerable support from the local pyramid of schools. The school raising achievement plan has been developed in conjunction with local authority support. The plan identifies all the areas which the school needs to address to get to good. The plan needs some refinement so that the time scales and the areas of impact are clearer. A review of pupil premium spending and of the Early Years Foundation Stage are yet to take place but are planned for later on this term.

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

Yours sincerely

Pete Sewell
Associate Inspector

- Appropriate authority - Chair of the Governing Body/Interim Executive Board
- Local authority – including where the school is an academy