

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

9 March 2016

Ms Angela Maxted
Headteacher
Cheriton Primary School
Church Road
Folkestone
Kent
CT20 3EP

Dear Ms Maxted

Short inspection of Cheriton Primary School

Following my visit to the school on Thursday 4 February 2016, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the inspection findings. The visit was the first short inspection carried out since the school was judged to be good in January 2011.

This school continues to be good.

You, the staff and governors are highly ambitious to make sure that every Cheriton child, regardless of gender, culture, beliefs or ability will succeed, enjoy their time in school and make rapid progress academically and socially. The school is vibrant and the many languages spoken and different cultural heritages are valued and celebrated. The pupils' lives are enriched because you make the most of the diverse cultural and social mix. At the time of the last inspection, the inspector highlighted some significant strengths in the school. These included exceptional care, guidance and support provided for pupils, outstanding engagement and relationships with parents, excellent spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and an outstanding contribution to community cohesion. These strengths have been maintained and continue to be at the heart of the school's success. All staff are proud to work here and enjoy being part of the school.

Just over one quarter of the pupils are from service families and many are Nepalese. You and your staff work closely with the garrison and you understand the specific needs of service children. This group of pupils enjoy their time in Cheriton and achieve very well academically and socially. As well as the cycle of changes which happen when there is a change of personnel at the garrison, the school experiences a higher than average movement of pupils in and out of the school during their primary education. You have very good transition arrangements so that pupils

Next steps for the school

Leaders and governors should take steps to:

- improve the quality of pupils' written work by expecting them to spell correctly topic-related vocabulary and every day words such as days of the week and months
- provide more opportunities for pupils to develop self-discipline, make choices and decisions and to solve problems throughout the school day.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body, the Regional Schools Commissioner and the Director of Children's Services for Kent. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Sheena MacDonald

Her Majesty's Inspector

Information about the inspection

I met with you, the deputy headteacher, other senior leaders, five members of the governing body and a representative from the local authority. I visited most of the teaching groups during the day, along with the headteacher, to observe the quality of teaching and learning. I also looked at a sample of writing, mathematics, history and science books. I took account of 24 staff questionnaires, 107 responses to Parent View (Ofsted's online questionnaire) and the school's most recent parent survey. I spoke to parents at the start of the school day. I analysed a range of the school's documentation, including information about teaching, pupils' achievement, staff training records, safeguarding checks, policies, and procedures. I also looked at, and discussed with you, the evaluation of the school's effectiveness and the current improvement plans.