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Victoria Wallace
Headteacher
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Dear Mrs Wallace

Ofsted visit to Lillington Primary School

Following my visit with Sandy Hayes, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 6 October 2020, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the visit's findings. Thank you for the time you made available to discuss your actions since September 2020, when the government expected all schools to open fully to all pupils.

This visit was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for visiting schools while routine inspections are temporarily suspended.

Ofsted's visits to schools during the autumn term are not inspections. We are not giving graded judgements. We did not undertake the usual range of inspection activities and were unable to check other sources of evidence, such as visits to lessons or looking at pupils' work. The content of this letter gives an overview of our discussions about what has happened in your school this term.

During the visit, we spoke to you. We did not speak to pupils because of the protective measures in place.

Context

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills is leading Ofsted's work into how England's education system is managing the return to full education for pupils following an extended break in formal schooling due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

In undertaking this focused work, HMI are visiting a broad range of schools. HMI will visit a sample of:

- approximately 1,200 schools across all Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate)
- maintained schools, academies and free schools, special schools and centres of alternative provision, including those in cities, and coastal, town or rural communities.

The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector. We did not find any significant concerns during the visit. In such a case, an inspection report would be published on our website and available to parents and carers.

We did not consider your response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020, when the school was not open to all pupils.

From this visit, inspectors noted that:

- The school opened to all pupils on 3 September 2020. All pupils are expected to attend full time.
- Attendance is broadly in line with the school's normal attendance for this time of year. Almost all pupils are back in school. Leaders have worked with the small number of families who were initially anxious about their children returning to school.
- Pupils are studying their usual range of national curriculum subjects. In some subjects, such as physical education, you have adapted the curriculum to reflect government guidelines in relation to COVID-19. You have also changed the timetable, so pupils spend more time on reading, writing and mathematics.
- Staff have changed the way in which reading is taught. You told us that all pupils, including those in Reception, have more opportunities to read than in the past. Teachers have checked younger pupils' phonics knowledge. They are using this information to plan daily phonics sessions. Some pupils receive additional input to support their learning.
- Teachers have checked pupils' mathematical understanding and are using this information to adapt lessons where pupils need to catch up. Staff are focusing

on strengthening pupils' basic mathematical skills. You said that pupils continue to have opportunities to apply their knowledge to solve mathematical problems.

- In other subjects, teachers are assessing what pupils remember. Topics are planned to include important knowledge that pupils may have missed. Your ambition is that by summer 2021 pupils will be back on track and following the usual curriculum.
- You provide remote education for pupils who are self-isolating. This is based around the curriculum they would experience if they were in school. You have plans to develop this provision further, should this become necessary in the future.

Thank you again for contributing to this important national work. The views and experiences you have shared will help to inform future policy.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the governing body, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Warwickshire. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Catherine Crooks
Her Majesty's Inspector