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26 October 2020

Amanda Westaway Headteacher Kings Furlong Junior School Upper Chestnut Drive Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 8YJ

Dear Miss Westaway

Ofsted visit to Kings Furlong Junior School

Following my visit with Daniel Lambert, 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, the deputy headteacher and the attendance leader. 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 7 September 2020. The majority of pupils are expected to attend full time. A small number of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) who have education, health and care plans currently attend on a part-time basis.
- Pupils' attendance is in line with the usual levels of attendance for this time of year.
- During the first two weeks of September, the curriculum focused on pupils' emotional needs through additional teaching of personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education. Currently, pupils study English, mathematics and some of the humanities subjects. Leaders intend to return to the school's usual curriculum in November 2020.
- Teachers have checked pupils' knowledge in writing and mathematics. They have adjusted their planning to help pupils revise important concepts before moving on with new learning. Leaders intend to use the COVID-19 catch-up premium to provide additional support in English and mathematics.
- Teachers have undertaken checks to determine pupils' reading skills, and some pupils are less fluent than teachers would expect. Teachers have introduced extra daily reading sessions to help all pupils catch up with any learning they have missed. Teachers are also focusing on developing pupils' comprehension skills and reinvigorating their love for reading.
- Leaders have set up a system for delivering remote learning in all subjects. They have plans to use it if needed in the future. Paper-based materials will be provided for pupils who do not have access to online resources.



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 and the director of children's services for Hampshire County Council. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Shazia Akram **Her Majesty's Inspector**