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Sue Collins
Executive Headteacher
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Dear Mrs Collins

Ofsted visit to Bromstone Primary School, Broadstairs

Following my visit with Frances Nation, 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 and other members of the leadership team. 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:

- You opened the school fully for pupils on 2 September 2020. Children in Reception had a staggered start but were expected to attend full time from the start of week three.
- Current attendance of pupils is very slightly below that of this time last year. You continue to expect all pupils to attend all of the time. Most are doing so.
- Pupils are accessing the school's normal range of curriculum subjects. However, there are some subjects, such as music and physical education, that have restricted content. You hope to have your full curriculum in place before summer 2021.
- Staff are assessing the impact of missed schooling on pupils' learning on a day-to-day basis as part of their normal practice. This is allowing teachers to identify gaps in learning across the whole curriculum. Interventions to address gaps in pupils' knowledge are being delivered within class groups.
- Assessments of pupils' phonics and reading skills are ongoing and are informing teachers of where additional help within class groups is needed. These include pupils in all year groups across the school.
- Pupils are following the school's usual mathematics curriculum. Teachers are assessing gaps in pupils' knowledge, making adjustments to their lessons and providing additional support to pupils where needed. You plan to assess pupils' mathematical knowledge through more formal assessments towards the end of the term.

- You have plans in place to further develop your remote education offer. These include introducing a completely new online platform and training staff in its use. These will build on your established remote learning offer, which includes both online and paper-based resources for pupils.

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 Kent. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Clive Close
Her Majesty's Inspector