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Gillian Leadbetter-Simms
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Dear Mrs Leadbetter-Simms

Ofsted visit to Cranleigh Church of England Primary School

Following my visit with Lucy English, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 15 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, the attendance officer and the subject leaders for science and religious education (RE). 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 to all pupils on 3 September 2020. Apart from a very small number of pupils on part-time timetables, pupils are expected to attend full time.
- Pupils' attendance so far this term is lower than the same time last year. A number of pupils, including those in the Year 5 'bubble', had to self-isolate earlier this term.
- During the first two weeks of September, you focused the curriculum on pupils' well-being and re-engaging them as learners. Pupils are now studying the full range of subjects they usually would.
- Teachers have checked pupils' knowledge in mathematics, phonics, reading and spelling. They are using this information to support pupils, both individually and in small groups, to catch up with their learning in these areas. You intend to use the COVID-19 catch-up premium to support all pupils to improve their phonics and reading.
- You have given phonics and reading more time in the curriculum. Teachers are focusing on developing pupils' vocabulary and comprehension skills. You have provided staff with extra training in these areas.
- In mathematics, teachers are particularly helping pupils to develop their knowledge and confidence with number bonds and times tables.
- In other subjects, teachers have reviewed what learning the pupils have missed. They are adapting lessons to include the knowledge it is essential for



them to know. You intend to reintroduce extra-curricular provision after half term.

■ Recently, you provided remote education for pupils who were self-isolating. Should it be needed again, you are confident that all subjects can be delivered remotely. You will provide printed materials for pupils who require them.

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 director of education for the Diocese of Guildford, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Surrey. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Louise Walker **Her Majesty's Inspector**