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Polly Goodson
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Dear Mrs Goodson

Ofsted visit to St Anne's Church of England Primary School

Following my visit with Mark Quinn, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 8 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 subject leaders for mathematics and computing, and the senior 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:

- The school opened fully to all pupils on 3 September 2020. Pupils are expected to attend full time.
- Pupils' attendance is similar to the school's usual attendance rates at this time of the year.
- All pupils attending school are studying the usual range of subjects. Teachers are giving priority to mathematics, reading and personal, social and health education. This is to help pupils settle back into school and to make up for lost learning time.
- Staff have checked pupils' knowledge of phonics and you have arranged extra support for those pupils who need to catch up. Teachers' reading checks show that older pupils are not as confident with some aspects of comprehension. You have invested in new resources to help strengthen this aspect of reading.
- In mathematics, teachers have checked what pupils have remembered prior to the period when schools were only open to some pupils due to COVID-19 restrictions. These checks show that pupils are less secure in some aspects of mathematics, such as arithmetic. You have plans in place to help pupils catch up.
- In other subject areas, you are developing systems to identify learning that pupils missed during the 2020 spring and summer terms. You are planning to re-order or change the content in some subjects, if this is needed.

- You have plans in place to deliver the curriculum remotely, if required. You have invested in a range of resources to support this. You have also provided training to staff to support the delivery of remote education.

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 Chester, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Trafford. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Adam Sproston
Her Majesty's Inspector