

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T 0300 123 1231
www.gov.uk/ofsted



10 November 2020

Sue Bridges
Headteacher
King Edward Primary School
St. Andrew Street
Littleworth
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 2RG

Dear Mrs Bridges

Ofsted visit to King Edward Primary School

Following my visit with Di Mullan, 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 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:

- All pupils returned to school on 3 September 2020.
- Pupils' attendance is above the normal rate for this time of year. During her twice-weekly assemblies, the headteacher conveys to pupils the importance of attendance. Some assemblies and videos are occasionally streamed online for parents to access.
- All pupils are studying the usual range of subjects that are typically taught at the school.
- Teachers' checks on pupils' knowledge and skills in phonics have shown that some pupils have gaps in their understanding. Pupils in Years 1 to 3 are receiving additional lessons to help them catch up.
- Teachers have found that pupils in Years 3 and 4 are not as secure in their understanding of number and place value as previously. Teachers have provided pupils with activities that will support them in being able to understand the order and value of numbers. Pupils in Years 5 and 6 are focusing more on developing their understanding of the relationship between

fractions, decimals and percentages, after teachers' checks revealed gaps in pupils' mathematical knowledge.

- Adults have found that children in Nursery and Reception Years have needed more opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills in communication and language since their return to school.
- All pupils have received extended lessons in physical education to support them in improving their levels of fitness and in understanding the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- Senior leaders have put in place a remote-learning programme. This is being accessed by a few pupils who are currently not attending school.

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

Yours sincerely

David Carter
Her Majesty's Inspector