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Dear Mrs Allen

Ofsted visit to Bosham Primary School

Following my visit with Laurie Anderson, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 20 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 acting headteacher. 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, with Reception children attending part time for the first week and all other pupils expected to attend full time from this date.
- Levels of attendance are similar to this time last year.
- Pupils are studying all national curriculum subjects. Leaders have reordered some of the content that pupils learn in music and physical education. All pupils have received additional personal, social, health and economic education to help them to settle back into school life. Leaders hope that the curriculum can return to normal by January 2021.
- Staff have assessed pupils' knowledge in reading, writing and mathematics. In other subjects, staff are checking what pupils know and remember before they introduce new concepts.
- Teachers have noticed that some younger pupils need to recap their phonics knowledge. Staff are providing opportunities for these pupils to revisit any sounds they have forgotten. Older pupils lack some confidence in identifying the authors' intent when they read a text. Staff are spending more time reading aloud and explaining why an author has made particular choices and decisions.
- Leaders are pleased with how much pupils have remembered in mathematics. They are teaching the normal curriculum and weaving in any content that may have been missed when pupils were not in school due to COVID-19 restrictions.

- Staff are providing remote education for any pupils who are absent for more than one day. Pupils can access this work from home and learn the same content as their peers in school. This system can be used for every pupil in the school, should the need arise.

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 West Sussex. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Daniel Lambert
Her Majesty's Inspector