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Miss Jennifer McGinty
Headteacher
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Hammersmith
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Dear Miss McGinty

Ofsted visit to Larmenier & Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School

Following my visit with Andrea Bedeau, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 13 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 senior leaders, including the leader with responsibility for safeguarding. 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 3 September 2020. All pupils are attending full time.
- Attendance has been slightly lower than you would usually expect at this stage in the autumn term. You are in regular touch with parents to identify, and to try to overcome, any barriers to their child's attendance. At the time of the visit, the Year 5 'bubble' was isolating at home.
- All pupils are studying the full range of subjects that the school usually provides. You have adjusted how some subjects are taught. For example, in art, pupils are doing more individual work rather than working in groups, and in music, pupils are studying notation and doing listening work rather than performing. You have plans in place to return the school to the usual curriculum by April 2021.
- Teachers have identified that some pupils need more practice remembering the different letter sounds and in their understanding of some words. You are providing more opportunities for pupils to read during the school day. Individual pupils receive additional support in specific areas where they need to catch up. Leaders have selected texts for pupils to read in all subjects to help with their comprehension.
- Teachers frequently check how well pupils recall their previous learning in mathematics before moving on to new content. You are providing pupils with a range of resources to help them relearn skills they have used before and to become more confident in their use of numbers.

- In other subjects, such as history and science, you have identified specific facts and ideas that pupils need to learn before moving on to the more complex areas. You have reorganised your plans to give pupils the opportunity to fill these gaps while covering the content planned for this year.
- You have developed your systems for remote learning, including online lessons and resources. You have planned the content and delivery of remote learning so that pupils who are isolating at home can cover similar work in mathematics, English and other subjects as they would in 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 Hammersmith and Fulham. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Amanda Carter-Fraser
Her Majesty's Inspector