

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T 0300 123 1231
www.gov.uk/ofsted



17 November 2020

Andy Lyons
Headteacher
Hampton Hargate Primary School
Hargate Way
Hampton Hargate
Peterborough
PE7 8BZ

Dear Mr Lyons

Ofsted remote visit to Hampton Hargate Primary School

Following my remote visit with Isabel Davis, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 5 November 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. Following changes to government guidance and the imposition of COVID-19 (coronavirus) lockdown restrictions, we made this visit remotely to reduce pressure on the school.

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 assistant headteacher, the key stage 1 special educational needs coordinator (SENCo), the attendance lead and the key stage 1 and upper key stage 2 leaders. We did not speak to pupils.

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 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:

- On 3 September 2020, Years 1 to 6 pupils returned to school full time. Reception children had a part-time phased return to school and started full time on 21 September. This is the normal organisation for Reception classes at this time of the year.
- Attendance is similar to what is typical for this time of the year. Just before half term, the Year 2 bubble had to isolate at home for just over a week.
- Staff have increased their focus on the teaching of reading, writing and mathematics to help pupils catch up in these areas of the curriculum.
- Leaders report that there has been very little disruption to the usual range of subjects being taught. Teachers have considered different ways of teaching the planned content for every subject that pupils are learning. Leaders are planning alternatives to the normal school visits. Some visitors are conducting their visits online to support the teaching of the curriculum.
- Pupils are receiving additional work to revisit their knowledge of phonics. Staff are supporting pupils to pronounce sounds correctly and helping pupils to use what they know in their wider reading.
- Leaders' checks have shown that some pupils have not been reading regularly. Teachers are giving pupils opportunities to read for longer periods of time and giving pupils activities to deepen their understanding of different texts. These are in an effort to rebuild pupils' confidence in reading.

- To help younger pupils catch up in mathematics, additional support and time are being given to pupils to revisit mathematical vocabulary, so they remember how to use it correctly when explaining place value.
- For all year groups, leaders have planned for the same subject content that pupils would learn if they were in school, to be taught remotely. Where pupils have difficulties accessing equipment or the internet, teachers have alternative arrangements in place, so pupils can continue the same learning as all others in their class.

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

Yours sincerely

Tracy Fielding
Her Majesty's Inspector