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18 November 2020

Ruby Nasser  
Headteacher  
Edith Neville Primary School  
174 Ossulston Street  
London  
NW1 1DN

Dear Ms Nasser

### **Ofsted visit to Edith Neville Primary School**

Following my visit with Sophie Welch, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 21 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 the headteacher, who is also the senior leader responsible for safeguarding. 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 (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:**

- You opened the school to all pupils on 7 September 2020. Children joining the Nursery started gradually over the first three weeks. They are now attending school full time.
- Pupils' attendance is in line with the school's normal attendance for this time of year. A 'bubble' of Reception Year children and Year 1 pupils was isolating at the time of the visit.
- Year 1 pupils are engaging with the early years foundation stage curriculum. This is to cover the learning experiences they missed during the period when schools were only open to some children due to COVID-19 restrictions. You are planning for a return to the usual Year 1 curriculum by the spring term 2021.
- Currently in Years 2 to 6, pupils are not taught singing in music. In physical education (PE), no pupils are having swimming lessons. Your plan is for pupils to return to their usual music and PE learning by the summer term 2021.
- Teachers have used assessments to check pupils' new starting points in reading. A structured programme of phonics revision has started in the Reception and Year 1 classes so that they get back on track as soon as possible. Extra phonics support has started in Years 2 and 3 for the few pupils identified as having gaps in their phonic knowledge.
- In mathematics, teachers have undertaken similar checks on pupils' knowledge. As a result, staff are giving a greater focus to pupils' problem-solving and reasoning.

- Teachers have started to check that important knowledge in music and art, which may have been missed during the spring and summer terms, is adequately covered in future topics.
- You are looking at how the school's systems for remote education can be improved should they be needed to deliver the curriculum in the future. All pupils now access homework online. This is helping to engage pupils with virtual learning.

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

Yours sincerely

Jean Thwaites  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**