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Louise Lovegrove
Headteacher
Trinity St Stephen Church of England (Voluntary Aided) First School
Vansittart Road
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Dear Mrs Lovegrove

Ofsted visit to Trinity St Stephen Church of England (Voluntary Aided) First School

Following my visit to your school on 4 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.

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, I spoke with you. I 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.

I 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, the inspector noted that:

- The school opened to pupils in Years 1 to 4 on 2 September 2020. All pupils are expected to attend full time. Children in Reception class started full time on 7 September 2020.
- Pupils' current attendance is above what it normally is at this time of year.
- Pupils are studying their usual range of subjects. Teachers are checking the knowledge pupils remember in all subjects. They have identified the areas pupils need to re-visit before moving on to new learning. Teachers have changed the order in which some of the content is being taught in physical education and music.
- Teachers have assessed pupils' knowledge in English and mathematics. They have identified that pupils are less confident with their spelling and handwriting and have less stamina to write at length. They are providing pupils with opportunities to practise these aspects in a number of subjects.
- Teachers have carried out checks on pupils' phonics knowledge. They have adjusted phonics teaching in Years 1 and 2 to help pupils catch up with any learning they have missed. Teachers are focusing on developing pupils' comprehension skills in Years 1 to 4.
- In mathematics, teachers are particularly helping pupils to improve their ability to quickly recall mathematical facts such as their times tables.
- You have established a system to deliver remote education that pupils and their parents can access through the school's website. You will provide printed materials for pupils who require them.

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 Windsor and Maidenhead. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Shazia Akram
Her Majesty's Inspector