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19 November 2020

Diane Parry  
Headteacher  
Stanton Under Bardon Community Primary School  
Main Street  
Stanton Under Bardon  
Leicestershire  
LE67 9TQ

Dear Mrs Parry

### **Ofsted visit to Stanton Under Bardon Community Primary School**

Following my visit with Roary Pownall, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 3 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, we spoke to you and the deputy 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 fully to all pupils on 26 August 2020. Children in Reception started to attend from 1 September 2020. Almost all pupils are attending full time.
- Attendance is slightly lower than that seen normally at this time of the year. Leaders are supporting families when necessary to help pupils return to school.
- In most year groups, pupils are studying the full range of subjects. Pupils in Year 6 are not currently studying music or languages. Leaders expect to return to the usual curriculum by the summer of 2021.
- Teachers have checked knowledge pupils may have missed or forgotten in phonics, reading, writing and mathematics during the period when the school was not fully open to pupils.
- Leaders have increased the time spent teaching phonics in Reception and Years 1 and 2. In Years 3 to 6, leaders have widened the range of books pupils read, to develop their comprehension and inference skills.
- In mathematics, teachers have identified that pupils in Years 3 to 6 are not as confident as they were previously in their understanding of shape and space. Teachers have adapted their planning to cover this knowledge.
- In the wider curriculum, teachers are checking what pupils already know as they teach new topics. They will adapt what they teach to cover any missed content.

- Pupils who are unable to attend school can study the curriculum remotely. Leaders are ensuring that remote learning matches the school's curriculum.

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

Yours sincerely

Simon Hollingsworth  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**