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27 November 2020

Paul Cook  
Headteacher  
Collingham Lady Elizabeth Hastings' Church of England Primary School  
Linton Road  
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West Yorkshire  
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Dear Mr Cook

### **Ofsted remote visit to Collingham Lady Elizabeth Hastings' Church of England Primary School**

Following my remote visit with Michele Costello, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 12 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 and the senior leadership team. 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:**

- Around half of the pupils have had to work from home at some point since the start of term. On the date of our visit, the Year 1 class 'bubble' was self-isolating.
- The amount of time given to the teaching of English and mathematics has been extended since the start of term. As a result, history and geography are not currently being taught as separate lessons. You told us that you plan to return all pupils to the school's usual curriculum by the summer term 2021.
- Teachers have checked pupils' knowledge and understanding in reading. They have identified gaps in pupils' phonics knowledge and in their comprehension skills. You explained that pupils who need to catch up are provided with additional support.
- In mathematics, teachers have identified gaps in pupils' learning. You told us that you have increased the amount of teaching time and you have asked teachers to focus on calculation skills, including times tables and mental mathematics.
- In science, teachers are adapting plans to take account of missed learning. Pupils in Year 3 missed a unit called 'animals including humans' when the

school was partially closed. This unit will now be taught alongside Year 4 content.

- In the first two weeks of term, you focussed on pupils' mental health and well-being as some pupils were anxious about returning to school. You continue to offer pupils personal, social and health education lessons twice per week.
- Pupils have access to remote education if required. This mirrors the school's pre-existing curriculum, including collective worship.
- Pupils isolating in bubbles have access to a full remote education curriculum from the second day of isolation, while those isolating individually access this from the third day. In the interim period, resources are available on the school website to support pupils before the remote education curriculum goes live. You explained that laptops are provided to those pupils who need 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 director of education for the diocese of Leeds, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Leeds. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Marcus Newby  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**