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Jacqueline Brading
Headteacher
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Dear Ms Brading

Ofsted remote visit to New Cangle Community Primary School

Following my remote visit with Fyfe Johnston, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 19 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 two deputy headteachers and the attendance officer. 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:

- At the time of our visit, a quarter of pupils have needed to work from home since the start of the autumn term. This includes a year-group 'bubble'.
- Pupils are studying the usual range of subjects in the school's curriculum, except modern foreign languages. Teachers are spending additional time on personal, social and health education. Leaders plan to have the usual curriculum for all subjects, including modern foreign languages, in place by summer term 2021.
- Staff have checked what learning pupils have remembered. Leaders told us that checks have shown that pupils are not where they would expect them to be in reading, writing and mathematics.
- Pupils in Years 1 and 2 are receiving extra teaching to revisit their phonics knowledge. Staff are providing older pupils with additional support to help them recall and use their reading comprehension, punctuation and handwriting skills accurately.
- In mathematics, teachers have planned for pupils to spend more time revisiting number work and multiplication tables. Teachers are focusing on these areas to help pupils remember how to use them when solving problems.
- Teachers have adapted what is being taught in other subjects. In physical education, the content and order of lessons has changed so that pupils learn

outside more frequently. Leaders are thinking of other ways to give pupils similar experiences that they would normally have in a different way.

- For all year groups, leaders have planned for pupils to be taught similar subject content remotely to that if they were in school. If pupils do not have access to a computer, paper-based learning is available. Leaders say they are keen to develop remote education further.

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

Yours sincerely

Isabel Davis
Her Majesty's Inspector