

Ofsted
Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T 0300 123 1231
www.gov.uk/ofsted



18 December 2020

Steven Jones
Headteacher
Perins School
Pound Hill
Alresford
Hampshire
SO24 9BS

Dear Mr Jones

Ofsted visit to Perins School

Following my visit with Matthew Newberry, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 8 December 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, members of the senior leadership team and some subject leaders. 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:

- At the time of the visit, a very small number of pupils were self-isolating. However, the whole-school community has recently returned to school after a two-week period of closure, following advice from Public Health England. All pupils have therefore had to learn from home for short periods of time because of COVID-19.
- All pupils are studying the usual range of subjects. Access to specialist rooms is regularly rotated to give pupils some practical experience in subjects such as science and design and technology. The school's normal extra-curricular offer of trips and visits is currently paused. Leaders are keen to reinstate this as soon as possible.
- Subject leaders have made some adaptations to the curriculum due to the health and safety restrictions in place. For example, outside speakers are no longer able to come in and work with Years 7 and 8 as part of the school's 'Transformational Learning' sessions. These have been replaced with lessons in Latin.
- Teachers have checked what pupils know and remember in every subject. Leaders are making sure teaching addresses any gaps that emerge for individuals and classes. Additional support across many subjects is being offered to pupils who require this, including in English and mathematics.
- Pupils in Year 11 are continuing to study all of their examination subjects. Leaders feel the impact of any disruption caused by COVID-19 has been

minimal on pupil's knowledge and skills. Pupils have considered their mental well-being and coping strategies as part of the school's personal, social, health and emotional programme.

- Any pupils who are away from school self-isolating are expected to either attend their timetabled lessons online or study pre-recorded sessions. This remote education mirrors the school's normal curriculum. Teachers are directing pupils to revisit the pre-recorded 'screencasts' at home to revise any topics where they feel less confident.

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 board of trustees, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Hampshire. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Aimee Floyd
Her Majesty's Inspector