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Samanda Adcock
Headteacher
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Dear Ms Adcock

Ofsted remote visit to St Peter's Church of England School

Following my remote visit with Lisa Strong, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 1 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. 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 including the leaders for safeguarding. 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:

- A small number of pupils have had to work from home at some point since the start of term.
- Leaders continue to offer their usual range of subjects to all pupils in all year groups. Leaders have introduced a staggered start and end to the day and reorganised which subjects are taught on each day. These changes have allowed more time to be given to teaching. Leaders have reviewed their curriculum plans and made some changes to the order of the content. Leaders are planning for a return to the planned curriculum by September 2021.
- In all subjects, teachers have used a variety of methods to check what pupils have learned and remembered from last year, for example through quick knowledge quizzes. They have used the outcomes of these checks to plan their lessons.
- Leaders have continued to prioritise reading in school. In phonics, teachers are checking pupils' knowledge as they usually would.
- In mathematics, teachers found gaps in pupils' knowledge of number and place value and so they have spent more time on these areas since the start of term.
- In personal, social and health education leaders have focused on pupils' well-being and managing their emotions since returning to school. Staff have adapted teaching space, including creating an outdoor area, to help pupils make the transition from Reception Year to Year 1.

- There has been no need for a year-group 'bubble' to work from home since September. When individual pupils have isolated and worked from home, teachers have uploaded the resources to the school website for pupils to access. These resources cover reading, writing, mathematics and one other subject.
- If a year-group bubble does need to work from home, materials will be available on the website and teachers will also communicate with pupils remotely. Staff are currently being trained in a new system that will allow teachers to check pupils' work and provide feedback.

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

Yours sincerely

Mark Smith
Her Majesty's Inspector