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21 December 2020

Michelle Lunney  
Headteacher  
St Osmund's Catholic Primary School  
Church Road  
Barnes  
London  
SW13 9HQ

Dear Mrs Lunney

### **Ofsted visit to St Osmund's Catholic Primary School**

Following my visit with Andrea Bedeau, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 3 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, the assistant headteacher and the English leader. 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:**

- A small proportion of pupils have had to study from home for several days since the start of term. This included a class 'bubble' and several pupils who needed to self-isolate.
- Pupils are studying all subjects, but with some changes to content. For example, in physical education, gymnastics is taught less often because outside activities are prioritised. Leaders expect to return to the normal curriculum before summer 2021.
- Checks made in September 2020 showed gaps in the youngest pupils' phonics knowledge. Pupils were unable to access the school's reading scheme over the summer term. Additional sessions are provided daily to help individuals catch up.
- In mathematics, tests showed that older pupils had missed some learning in geometry. Not all pupils had access to appropriate resources to support this unit. Teachers are including geometry activities in every lesson to plug this gap.
- Leaders said that some learning could not be taught remotely as well as if pupils were in school. For example, in Year 4, the unit of 'electricity' should have been taught in the summer term. Year 5 teachers are planning to teach this unit in a special science week. This means pupils will have covered the content needed when the unit is built upon in Year 6.
- When a pupil self-isolates, the class teacher makes learning available online. This consists of the teaching slides used for English, maths, religious

education and non-practical science lessons. Links to activities and videos that support other areas of the curriculum are also provided.

- When a whole class bubble studies from home, remote education includes recorded lessons by the teacher. These videos are made available online.

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 Southwark, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Richmond Upon Thames. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Alison Colenso  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**