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7 May 2024

Jo Evans  
Acting Headteacher  
Luttons Community Primary School  
West Lutton  
Malton  
North Yorkshire  
YO17 8TF

Dear Mrs Evans,

### **Special measures monitoring inspection of Luttons Community Primary School**

This letter sets out the findings from the monitoring inspection that took place on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024 on behalf of His Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills. The monitoring inspection was carried out under section 8(2) of the Education Act 2005 and was the first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require special measures following the graded (section 5) inspection that took place in February 2023.

The purpose of a monitoring inspection is not to grade the school's overall effectiveness, but to identify and report on the school's progress. It is to highlight to the school and parents any improvements that school leaders have made since the school's previous graded inspection.

During the inspection, I discussed with you and other senior leaders, governors and a representative from the local authority, the actions that have been taken to improve the school since the most recent graded inspection. We discussed the ongoing impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. I also visited phonics lessons, considered the views of staff and reviewed other documentation. I have considered all of this information in coming to my judgement.

**Leaders have made progress to improve the school, but more work is necessary for the school to be no longer judged as requiring special measures.**

**The school may not appoint early career teachers before the next monitoring inspection.**

## **The progress made towards the removal of special measures**

Governors have worked with school leaders to carefully navigate a period of turbulence and change. At the time of this inspection, the substantive headteacher was absent from the school. Governors and the local authority have worked closely together to secure additional leadership capacity from EBOR multi-academy trust. You have recently been appointed as acting headteacher. You have also appointed a 'senior teacher'. Governors offer appropriate challenge to you around the quality of education that is being offered to pupils and the actions the school is taking.

During this monitoring visit, I focused on the areas for improvement identified in the inspection report of the graded inspection that took place in February 2023. This included the early years curriculum, phonics and the foundation subjects, including physical education and water safety in swimming.

You have ensured that the curriculum is designed sequentially for each of the foundation subjects. You have ensured that leaders are supporting staff to follow the revised curriculum planning that has been introduced in these subjects. You have provided staff with appropriate training to help them provide high-quality support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Pupils in all year groups now have weekly physical education lessons. Pupils in key stage 2 have experienced swimming lessons as part of their curriculum in physical education. These pupils can talk about how to stay safe in, and around, water.

You have begun, alongside other leaders, to monitor how well different subjects are taught. This monitoring is not currently giving you the precise information you need about which foundation subjects need more rapid development. This is because the monitoring systems have been recently introduced and you are continuing to work with subject leaders to embed these. You are aware of the need to ensure that your monitoring systems give you detailed information about the subjects in which staff need the most support.

The school has made changes to the early years curriculum. Staff share clear routines and expectations with the children. Children are beginning to respond and to sustain concentration in their learning. You recognise that you need to further develop the early years curriculum so that the knowledge, vocabulary and skills that children experience from the beginning of Nursery to the end of Reception are clearly defined and understood by all staff.

Phonics has a high priority across the school. You have ensured that the phonics curriculum is consistently and precisely taught. Staff receive regular training to help them teach phonics well. Leaders are using assessment effectively to identify pupils across the school who need help with reading.

The school has sought support and expertise from the English and Mathematics hubs to help make improvements to the teaching of mathematics and phonics. You have also sourced additional capacity to promote a culture of high attendance and to introduce strategies to target groups of pupils who do not attend school as frequently as they should. You are aware of the importance of providing governors with more detail about the impact of the school's work on increasing levels of attendance for certain pupils. This supports governors to check that the attendance of pupils with low attendance is consistently improving.

The statement of action is fit for purpose. With other leaders, you use this document well to inform your school improvement activities. You understand that there is more work to do to further develop leadership capacity, particularly in the foundation subjects.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the board of governors, the Department for Education's regional director and the director of children's services for North Yorkshire. This letter will be published on the Ofsted reports website.

Yours sincerely

Liam Colclough  
**His Majesty's Inspector**