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Mrs Sue Welling
The Headteacher
Moving On Pupil Referral Unit
2nd Floor
1 Katherine Street
Croydon
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Dear Mrs Welling

OFSTED MONITORING OF SCHOOLS WHOSE OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS HAS BEEN JUDGED SATISFACTORY

Thank you for the help which you and your staff gave when I inspected your school on 15 February 2007, for the time you gave to our phone discussion and for the information which you provided during my visit. Please pass my thanks to the staff, to the vice-chair of the advisory committee and to the school improvement partner who met with me.

This letter will be posted on the Ofsted website. Please inform the Regional Inspection Service Provider of any factual inaccuracies within 24 hours of the receipt of this letter.

As a result of the inspection on January 2006, the school was asked to: strengthen leadership and management at all levels; improve the evaluation of the unit's work, including assessment for learning; improve attendance. In addition, the local authority was charged with securing suitable accommodation to house the unit for the foreseeable future.

Having considered all the evidence I am of the opinion that at this time the unit is making satisfactory progress in addressing the areas for improvement.

The local authority has moved speedily since the inspection to secure permanent accommodation for the unit. Following the signing of a ten-year lease, work is well underway to refurbish the new premises and move the unit over the Easter break. Given the constraints of accommodation in the town centre, the provision is much improved in that it will offer better opportunities for practical activities, and will include catering facilities. Provision for outdoor

physical activity and recreational space, however, has not been possible. Good progress has been made on this area for improvement.

The unit has put in place additional measures to assist in improving attendance. These have had a very positive impact in supporting students' attendance as has the increased challenge for the more able. Around three quarters of the students have made significant improvements in their rate of attendance. Good progress has been made in this area.

Challenging staffing issues, as well as disruption caused by the imminent move to new accommodation, have hindered the unit's progress on implementing systems to track students' academic progress and on embedding on-going assessment in lessons. Classroom staff, some temporary or recently appointed, keep a range of individual records of students' achievements and of work covered. Courses for able students are more carefully matched to extend them. Students, for example, are proud of their progress in information and communication technology and are confident to explain how they can improve tasks. There is detailed information on students' successes in moving up levels in key skills. However, the half-termly tracking of students' overall progress, initiated following the inspection of January 2006, has not been maintained. Temporary teachers are not always given enough guidance on what records they are expected to keep. Progress on this area for improvement is satisfactory overall.

Managers have taken robust action to hold staff to account. Currently, only one of three subject co-ordinators is present in the unit. There is one vacancy and one long-term absence. Despite the recent appointment of a deputy headteacher, the lack of permanent staff has placed considerable strain on leaders and managers at all levels. Aspects of the unit's work have not been monitored regularly enough. The impact of actions taken to support improvement has not been evaluated sufficiently rigorously. Progress on strengthening leadership and management is limited.

The unit has received good support from the local authority, particularly in training for staff, and in supporting leadership and management at all levels. There is a clear commitment to ensure that the transition to the new building disrupts the work of the unit as little as possible.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your school.

Yours sincerely

Sheila Nolan
Additional Inspector