

Alexandra House  
33 Kingsway  
London  
WC2B 6SE

T 08456 404045  
F 020 7421 6855  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)



01 February 2007

Mrs H Whiteley  
Headteacher  
Dinnington Community Primary School  
School Street  
Dinnington  
Sheffield  
S25 2RE

Dear Mrs Whiteley

Ofsted survey inspection programme – Personal Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 24 January 2007 to look at work in PSHE.

As outlined in my initial letter, the focus of my visit was on the following aspects of PSHE: assessment, transition and work with parents.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our evaluation and reporting. Any published report is likely to list the names of the institutions visited, but we would not identify individual institutions within the report itself.

The evidence used to inform the judgements I made included: interviews with senior school leaders, a group of pupils, the PSHE co-ordinator and the learning mentors, scrutiny of school documentation including the records of assessment, analysis of a selection of pupils' work, and observation of three lessons and the whole school assembly.

I undertook to provide a brief written version of the main points made in my feedback at the end of the visit, to support development in PSHE.

The overall effectiveness of PSHE was judged to be satisfactory with some good features.

Pupils have a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of aspects of PSHE.

- Most pupils have an age appropriate understanding of sexual health risks, and the dangers of smoking and substance abuse.
- Most pupils have a good understanding of how to live a healthy lifestyle.

- Many pupils recognise the different risks in different situations.

The personal development and well being of pupils is satisfactory.

- Many pupils enjoy the PSHE and 'circle time' lessons.
- Pupils are right when they say that the School Council contributes positively to the life of the school.
- Many pupils value being part of the 'job squad' or working as 'support staff buddies'.
- Attendance remains inadequate even though significant attention is given to improving it.

The quality of teaching and learning is satisfactory or better.

- Appropriate behaviour is modelled by staff.
- Because all the 'circle time' activities are led by the Learning Mentors there is consistency of delivery.
- Most pupils are actively involved in lessons.
- Some pupils are not able to work effectively with others.

The quality of the PSHE curriculum is satisfactory.

- Aspects of citizenship are well integrated into the curriculum.
- The social and emotional aspects of learning are being developed.
- The multicultural dimension is undeveloped.
- Pupils' progress is monitored in a consistent way across the school.

The care, support and guidance provided to pupils are good.

- The non teaching staff are having a positive impact, including through the 'walking bus' and the 'after school' clubs.
- Pupils are rewarded for good behaviour and attitudes by a variety of means that includes the 'always club' and the 'golden tickets'/'special mention' awards.
- Pupils are confident that they are safe and well looked after in school.

Subject leadership and management are satisfactory.

- There is an appropriate agenda for improvement.
- The content of the curriculum and its assessment are being reviewed in a timely manner.
- The monitoring and evaluation of lessons and the impact of initiatives are undeveloped.

## Subject issues

- Assessment is satisfactory. Records are maintained showing the progress pupils make over a year, but these are not well reported to parents.
- Transition is good, with clearly identified links between the different key stages within the school as well as on transfer to secondary school.
- Work with parents is good overall with a developing programme of activities such as 'healthy eating for your child'.

This is an inclusive school.

- There is a good awareness of the needs of all pupils.
- Staff have a good understanding about how to meet the needs of all pupils.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, included:

- evaluating the impact of initiatives such as that for improving attendance
- monitoring teaching and learning.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop PSHE in the school.

As I explained, a copy of this letter will be sent to your Local Authority and will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Henry Moreton  
Additional Inspector