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Mrs K Evans
Headteacher
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Dear Mrs Evans

Ofsted Subject Inspection Programme 2006/7 – PSHE

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 21 March 2007 to look at work in PSHE.

As outlined in my initial letter, the focus of my visit was on the following aspect(s): healthy eating and assessment.

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 yourself, parents, governors, three teachers who jointly lead aspects of the subject, the school council and pupils from Year 6, scrutiny of school documentation, and observation of four lessons, a class council, the whole school assembly and playtime activities.

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. This follows

The overall effectiveness of PSHE was judged to be good.

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

- Over time, pupils make good progress in developing their awareness and skills. They enjoy participating in discussions and value it as a way of expressing their views and opinions.
- Pupils have an age appropriate understanding of the dangers of smoking and substance abuse, and a good awareness of sexual health.

 Pupils recognise risks in different situations, and know what actions to take to protect themselves and others.

The personal development and well being of pupils are good.

- Pupils have a good understanding of the importance of physical health.
- Pupils enjoy school and feel well supported.
- Pupils value the opportunities to contribute to the daily work of the school, and like to help and support others.
- Pupils are right when they say that the class and school councils contribute positively to the life of the school.

The quality of teaching and learning was good.

- Staff model appropriate behaviour.
- Lessons are well managed.
- Teachers intervene well to ensure that all pupils make the progress they should.
- Teachers address well the development of strong relationships.

The quality of the PSHE curriculum is good.

- Provision is comprehensive and based on good assessment of pupils' needs.
- Key themes such as sex and relationship education are addressed at times and in ways that meet pupils' needs.
- Assessment is regular, detailed and well reported to parents.

The provision for care, support and guidance for all pupils is good.

- Pupils of all abilities are well supported by teachers and teaching assistants.
- In PSHE the links with secondary schools are satisfactory.
- Parents and carers are well supported.

Subject leadership and management are good.

- Managers share the responsibilities for different aspects of the subject very well.
- Several staff are building up considerable expertise in PSHE.
- Governors are active in promoting provision.
- Resources are well targeted, including the use of staff.

Subject issues

- Pupils are adopting increasingly healthy lifestyles, including eating healthily.
- Assessment of the progress made by pupils is good. Accurate records are kept, starting from when pupils first join the school and progress made in PSHE are recorded as they move from year to year.

This is an inclusive school.

- Awareness of the needs of all pupils is good.
- Managers give high priority to the subject's development.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, included:

- developing and sharing knowledge and understanding of PSHE at transition to secondary schools
- developing pupils' emotional health and well being in order to support their academic achievement.

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