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Mrs L Stevens
Headteacher
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Dear Mrs Stevens

Ofsted Survey Inspection Programme: Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff, during my visit on Tuesday 15 May to look at work in PSHE.

As outlined in my initial letter, as well as looking at key areas of the subject, the visit had a particular focus on:

- how the PSHE curriculum meets the specific needs of pupils in your local area, and how progress was tracked and assessed
- what contribution PSHE makes to the future economic well-being of your pupils.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions but should we wish to cite specific aspects of practice we will contact the school first. All feedback letters will be published on the Ofsted website at the end of each half-term.

The evidence used to inform the judgements made included: interviews with staff and pupils, scrutiny of relevant documentation, analysis of pupils' work and observation of three lessons.

The overall effectiveness of PSHE was judged to be outstanding.

Achievement and standards

Achievement and standards are outstanding.

- Pupils have excellent knowledge and understanding of issues relating to their personal safety, health and well-being.
- They are confident, have excellent social skills, behave very well and care about others.
- They know how to manage their emotions and to deal with difficult situations constructively.

Quality of teaching and learning

The quality of teaching and learning is outstanding.

- Teachers have excellent subject knowledge and ensure that pupils learn in a receptive, safe and supportive environment.
- Pupils enjoy PSHE sessions and are successfully encouraged to think deeply about issues and to express their ideas with confidence.
- Assessment is outstanding: pupils' learning is accurately monitored to enable a swift response to any areas of concern.
- All ability groups are supported extremely well by teachers and the very effective learning support assistants.

Quality of curriculum

The quality of the curriculum is outstanding.

- There is an exceptional match of what pupils are learning to their particular needs.
- PSHE is very carefully integrated into other subjects with excellent use made of a range of resources to motivate and interest pupils, for example interactive white boards and digital cameras.
- Pupils receive outstanding advice and guidance from staff and visiting professionals including the school nurse.
- Visits and residential trips also provide pupils with outstanding opportunities to enhance their personal development and well-being.

Leadership and management

Leadership and management are outstanding.

- The subject is extremely well led: staff receive excellent training and support to drive forward new developments in PSHE.
- Outstanding care is taken to ensure that what is taught matches the needs of the school community with a focus on helping pupils to achieve as well as they can.
- Through the subject leader's enthusiasm and commitment to her subject responsibility, pupils' personal, social and emotional development is excellent: they are gaining the skills to fit them well for adulthood.

Subject issue

Pupils' preparation for future economic well-being is outstanding.

- The school has great strengths in developing pupils' skills to support economic well-being. For example, the business and enterprise projects, 'funky fruits' and 'Young Enterprise'.
- Pupils have excellent interpersonal skills: they work well in teams, communicate very effectively and understand the feelings of others.

Inclusion

Inclusion is outstanding.

- All groups of pupils, including those with learning difficulties and disabilities, are fully integrated into the range of PSHE activities including business and enterprise projects.
- The specific skills of the more and most able pupils are developed extremely well through exciting and interesting challenges including managing business ventures.
- Individual programmes are developed very effectively for pupils with specific difficulties following very careful monitoring and assessment.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, included:

- ensuring action planning always takes full account of expected impact on pupils' development.

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

As I explained in my previous letter, a copy of this letter will be sent to your local authority and will be published on the Ofsted website. It will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Susan Wheeler
Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools