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Mrs H Harrison Headteacher Epinay School Clervaux Terrace Jarrow NE32 5UP

Dear Mrs Harrison

Ofsted subject survey: identifying good practice in business and enterprise education

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 19 September to look at work in business and enterprise education.

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 individual institutions will not be identified in the main text without their consent.

The evidence used to inform the judgements made included: visits to lessons, discussions with pupils and staff, review of documentation and pupils' work.

Features of good practice observed

- Pupils enjoy coming to school which provides a caring atmosphere and many opportunities for them to make decisions and take responsibilities.
- Teachers set clear targets in lessons and use effective questioning to support learning. This helps pupils in thinking through problems and making decisions.
- The school's priorities of good behaviour, healthy lifestyles and enterprise are promoted by all adults working at the school.

- Information technology is used well in lessons.
- Teachers' use of praise and the school's effective 'points and consequences' system helps to motivate pupils to achieve their best and behave well.
- The good range of external links are used effectively to help develop pupils' work-related skills. The curriculum is very well planned to meet the needs of individual pupils, including GCSEs, NVQs, work-based training, college courses and work experience.

Areas for development that we discussed included:

- ensuring that the professional kitchen meets health, safety and hygiene standards at all times and there is sufficient storage space for pupils' personal equipment and portfolios
- developing systems to record evidence, track and monitor pupils' completion of NVQ criteria.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop business and enterprise in the school.

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

Yours sincerely

Bev Barlow Her Majesty's Inspector