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Mr P Rowe  
Headteacher  
Princes Risborough School  
Merton Road  
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Dear Mr Rowe

Ofsted survey inspection programme: the extent and quality of provision for pupils from day 6 of exclusion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation and that of your colleagues during my visit to Princes Risborough School on Wednesday 08 October 2008 to look at the work of your school in relation to the extent and quality of provision for pupils from day 6 of exclusion. I would be grateful if you would you pass my thanks also to the young people with whom I met.

At the time of my visit there were no pupils who were excluded for more than five days. However, the visit was very useful to enable me to understand the strategies you use to reduce the need for exclusions and the provision made for pupils who had been excluded for more than five days in the last academic year. The following points summarise my findings from our discussions, data and document review and conversations with parents and pupils.

- The school uses a wide range of intervention strategies to avoid exclusions, and pupils are supported well by the skilled staff working in the on site support centre which you call The House.
- Pupils and parents value the support pupils are given.
- Incidents of poor behaviour are monitored and tracked very well. The findings are used to shape individual strategies and also to inform staff training or support needs.
- The shared provision on site for pupils excluded for more than five days enables continuity of study, aided by the development of the virtual learning environment.
- Exclusions beyond five days are used only when all other strategies have failed and are therefore not always successful in avoiding permanent exclusion. Of the five pupils who accessed this provision last year, only one completed the final year in school, two pupils had managed moves and two were permanently excluded.

- Pupils with special educational needs represent a high proportion of exclusions.

The visit will provide much useful evidence for our survey.

Princes Risborough School will not be named in any publication without your permission. Most evidence will be used at a general level to ascertain if schools and local authorities are complying with legislation and to identify the quality and extent of their provision.

Thank you once again for your co-operation and the work you put in before hand and on the day to help me gain a good insight into the work of your 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.

Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Anita Wade  
Her Majesty's Inspector