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Mr L Burton
Leytonstone Business and Enterprise Specialist School
Colworth Road
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Dear Mr Burton

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 Leytonstone Business and Enterprise Specialist School on Thursday 06 November 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 pass my thanks also to the young people with whom I met.

The school has developed shared provision for pupils excluded for more than 5 days in partnership with the other schools in the area. This is hosted by one of these schools but, at the time of this visit, there were no pupils in the day 6 provision.

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 5 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.

- Improved preventative action, good internal support mechanisms and an effective Fair Access Panel process have resulted in a significant reduction in numbers of fixed term exclusions in the last two years and sustained low numbers of permanent exclusions.
- Good individualised programmes and effective monitoring and tracking processes support pupils on return from exclusion.
- Work for pupils during the first 5 days of exclusion is made available but is not always closely matched to individual needs or current programmes of study. Parents are not always able to collect this from school.

- Good awareness of cultural issues in the community. Swift and appropriate response to behaviour likely to cause racial tension in the school.
- Four pupils excluded for more than 5 days in the summer term 2008 were referred to day 6 provision but did not attend. Procedures to follow up referrals and attendance were insufficient.
- Good efforts are made to avoid the exclusion of very vulnerable pupils, for example looked after children or those where there are child protection concerns.
- No pupil with a statement of special educational needs has been permanently excluded in the last two years, but those at earlier stages of the SEN Code of Practice make up a high proportion of fixed term exclusions.

Areas for improvement which we discussed include:

- clarify procedures for and monitoring of exclusions for more than 5 days to ensure the requirements of the DCSF are being met and pupils take up their places in day 6 provision
- ensure that pupils have work to complete for the first 5 days which is matched to their ability and current work programmes
- monitor and take steps to reduce the proportion of pupils with special educational needs who are being excluded.

The visit will provide much useful evidence for our survey.

Leytonstone 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

Mrs A E Wade
Her Majesty's Inspector

