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27 November 2008

Ms L Matley  
Headteacher  
Reach PRU  
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Dear Ms Matley

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 staff, during my visit on Wednesday 5 November 2008 to look at your work in providing for students from day 6 of their permanent exclusion.

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. 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 yourself and members of your senior team, scrutiny of relevant documentation, a phone call to a parent, discussion with pupils and the observation of lessons. My judgements are related to the arrangements and outcomes for pupils whose exclusions meant you had to provide education for them from day 6 of their exclusions.

The overall effectiveness of the day 6 provision for pupils permanently excluded from school is outstanding.

Achievement and standards of pupils from day 6 of exclusion

All measures of progress for pupils permanently excluded from school, including attendance, destinations, accreditation and gains from their starting points greatly exceed expectations. Their achievement in GCSEs is particularly impressive as well as their progress in a wide range of courses. As a result of their success pupils become mature, respectful and have very positive attitudes to learning and the prospects for their futures. This means that

when they return to another school or go on to further education they remain engaged and successful.

#### Quality of teaching and learning for pupils from day 6 of exclusion

High quality teaching and learning ensures that lessons are very carefully planned to meet pupils' needs providing excellent challenge and motivation through high expectations. Lessons are fun and interesting and pupils are confident to contribute and work very hard. Pupils thoroughly enjoy their lessons and teaching is equally very strong in all subjects.

#### Quality of the curriculum for pupils from day 6 of exclusion

The outstanding curriculum for pupils permanently excluded from day 6 is very innovative and exceptionally extensive. It is rich, varied, highly personalised and relevant to pupils needs, leading to excellent engagement and achievement. Very strong links with other providers ensures plenty of alternative courses are available to meet every pupil's interests and aspirations. This alongside outstanding support for pupils' personal development and excellent involvement of their families means that the time pupils spend at the provision is truly transformational in their lives.

#### Leadership and management of provision for pupils from day 6 of exclusion

Leadership and management of provision for day 6 permanently excluded pupils are also outstanding. Careful evaluation of a wide range of outcomes leads to a constant and successful striving for improvement. The unit leadership is now seeking to develop systems which will enable comparisons with similar provision nationally so that self evaluation is strengthened further. The links with parents and relevant agencies are used to the full in addressing every aspect of personal and academic need the pupils may have.

#### Inclusion

Excellent inclusive practices ensure that pupils are provided with high quality education from day 6 of their permanent exclusion and often before. Younger pupils are eventually successfully re-integrated into other schools. Pupils in Key stage 4 all go on to further education or employment and achieve very well, exceeding expectations from prior schools and ready to take their place in the world.

The focus for development, which we discussed, is to strengthen self evaluation even further by seeking national comparative data as soon as this becomes available.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop the day 6 provision for permanently excluded students in the centre.

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

Patricia Potheary  
Additional Inspector