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30 January 2009

Mrs V Jones-Hughes  
The Headteacher  
Sandhurst Junior School  
Minard Road  
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Dear Mrs Jones-Hughes

Ofsted Thematic Survey Programme 2008-09

Social Responsibility and Community Cohesion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during my recent visit. We are particularly grateful to you and all your staff for the hard work involved in preparing for the visit and for giving up your time during the visit to meet me. Please pass on our thanks to all those concerned, including your pupils.

The visit provided much useful evidence for the further development of community cohesion. I noted, in particular:

- The school works hard to provide support for children and their families. For example, pupils who do not speak English are very well supported by the teacher based in school, who in turn has access to local authority support and is therefore able to help the parents with their English as well.
- The curriculum is adapted to take into account the background and heritage of its children and families. For example, they study aspects of African history which pupils respond to very well. This has contributed to improving their literacy as well as giving them a strong sense of both their family and international heritage.
- Pupils are well prepared to be active members of society. For example, they participated in a very effective class council session and they were encouraged to think about the skills needed to become a council member and to understand the democratic processes involved.
- Community liaison work, such as helping parents with housing issues, is currently done by teachers but this is very time-consuming and the school is finding it difficult to meet the growing demand for help with its limited resources.

The published survey report will list the names of the contributing institutions in an appendix. Should we wish to cite specific aspects of the good practice observed on this visit in the form of a detailed case study, we will contact you first. We will notify you of the date of publication of the survey report when it is confirmed and provide you with details of any other arrangements to disseminate the survey's findings.

Yours sincerely

Jo Peach  
Additional Inspector