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Mrs L King
Headteacher
Ashley School
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Dear Mrs King

Ofsted subject survey: identifying good practice in citizenship.

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff, during my visit on 23 February 2009 to look at work in citizenship.

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: discussions with staff and students, observation of a lesson and scrutiny of subject documentation and students' work.

Features of good practice observed

- The strong student voice which enables students to contribute to almost every aspect of decision-making in the school.
- Students' excellent skills of advocacy and representation through their involvement in the school council and range of committees.
- Teaching and learning that meets students' individual needs.
- Close monitoring of students' involvements in active citizenship within and beyond the school to ensure equality of participation and accessibility.
- The comprehensive and coherent curriculum that integrates classroom study with participation and decision-making through active citizenship.
- Excellent cross curricular links, particularly with the performing and visual arts.
- The outstanding range of extra curricular citizenship trips and activities.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop citizenship 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

Janet Palmer
Her Majesty's Inspector