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Mr Steven Scott
Banstead Community Junior School
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Dear Mr Scott

Ofsted monitoring of schools with a notice to improve

Thank you for the help which you and your staff gave when I inspected your school on 29 September 2009. Please pass on my thanks to pupils and to the Chair of Governors for the help they gave me during the inspection.

As a result of the inspection on 22 January 2009, the school was asked to;

- Meet all statutory requirements in relation to child protection.
- Strengthen governance so there is more systematic monitoring of all aspects of the school's work, particularly those relating to children's welfare.
- Improve the quality and consistency of teaching and learning so that they reflect the school's best practice.

Having considered all the evidence I am of the opinion that at this time the school is making satisfactory progress in addressing the issues for improvement and in raising the pupils' achievement.

The school data and inspection evidence indicate that the attainment of pupils is above average. The school is beginning to track progress and analyse data with greater sophistication in order that teachers are able to use targets effectively for all pupils and specific groups within the school.

The school has placed a great emphasis on ensuring that the school meets statutory requirements in relation to child protection. Staff training is up to date and appropriate checks are undertaken with all adults involved with the school. The school has undertaken a range of appropriate risk assessments and is clear how this process can be developed and used more widely. Appropriate logging of incidents and analysis of this information is also developing. There is extensive first-aid cover in the school, with all staff trained and some good practice in recording and



communicating with parents. The school is keen to improve this provision of care still further.

A more systematic approach by governors to monitoring of policies is developing. The review of a number of policies has been undertaken since the previous inspection, with updated procedures and cross checks implemented. The impact of policies, however, is not yet fully analysed in order to assess how they affect different groups within the school. Evidence of governors holding the school to account and presenting an appropriate level of challenge for the school is not clear from minutes of meetings and is not yet robust enough. Governors work hard, are extremely committed to the development of the school, and are keen to ensure that they offer the increased challenge required.

Lessons observed showed the pupils' enthusiasm and enjoyment of learning. Good examples of pupil assessment during lessons were seen, with pupils using the clear criteria provided by the teacher to carry out effective self- and peer-assessment. Outstanding practice in the management of pupils' behaviour by teachers was also observed, ensuring that all pupils maintained progress in class. Classrooms were productive learning environments but not all rooms made the best use of displays to celebrate the successes and achievements of pupils or support the learning.

The local authority statement of action is fit for purpose and has provided appropriate support for the school. Meetings between local authority personnel and the school's leadership to review the school's performance have ensured that the school improvement agenda has been at the forefront of the school's work.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your school. This letter will be posted on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Paul Scott
Her Majesty's Inspector

