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11 May 2009

Mr P Sutton
Headteacher
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Dear Mr Sutton

Ofsted survey inspection programme – Personal, Social, and Health Education (PSHE)

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff, during my visit on Thursday 30 April 2009 to look at work in PSHE.

As outlined in my initial letter, as well as looking at key areas of the subject, the visit had a particular focus on economic well-being.

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 you and staff involved in PSHE, scrutiny of relevant documentation, discussion with two groups of Year 6 pupils and a parent, and observation of three lessons and a Key Stage 1 assembly.

The overall effectiveness of PSHE was judged to be good.

Achievement in PSHE

Achievement in PSHE is good.

- Pupils have a good knowledge of personal hygiene and what constitutes a healthy lifestyle.
- They have a good knowledge of drugs both legal, illegal and medicines. They are aware of the effects of alcohol and cigarettes, and have had the opportunity to practise resisting peer group pressure.
- Currently, they have less knowledge of sex and relationships education due to its delivery late in the Year 6 curriculum.

- Pupils develop confidence and self-esteem as they move through the school due to the good range of leadership opportunities provided.
- Pupils develop good social skills. They are polite, articulate and respect the views of others.

Quality of teaching and learning of PSHE

The quality of teaching and learning is good.

- Teachers plan for a number of stimulating activities in lessons, the best of which consolidate learning.
- Good questioning strategies are used in most lessons and on-going assessment is well used to check for understanding.
- Teachers develop good relationships with all pupils and as a result, pupils behave well in PSHE lessons.
- In a minority of lessons, learning objectives are not sufficiently clear or measurable.
- There were missed learning opportunities in some lessons due to excessive teacher talk.

Quality of the curriculum

The quality of the curriculum is satisfactory.

- The PSHE curriculum is currently being revised to ensure that learning opportunities are maximised. As a result, the scheme of work is currently not sufficiently mapped across the school.
- Whilst relationship education has a high profile in the school, sex and relationship education appears too late in the Year 6 curriculum.
- An increasing number of external agencies are well used to support the PSHE curriculum.
- There is good support for vulnerable pupils and their families when specific social or emotional needs are identified. Non-teaching staff are well used to mentor individuals.

Leadership and management of PSHE

Leadership and management of PSHE are satisfactory.

- The new subject leader for PSHE works hard to support individual staff with resources and by disseminating information.
- The PSHE scheme of work and action plan are currently in a developmental stage. The subject leader is developing assessment opportunities.
- There are currently insufficient opportunities for the subject leader to monitor the delivery of PSHE across the school.

Subject issue: economic well-being

The development of pupils' economic well-being is good.

- They enjoy and thrive on the leadership opportunities they are given as they move through the school, such as playground leaders and running stalls at the summer fair.
- Pupils relate well to adults and are confident to talk to visitors. They are proud of their school and look smart in their uniform.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, included:

- ensuring the various components of the PSHE curriculum are strategically mapped throughout the scheme of work
- ensuring the subject leader for PSHE has the opportunity to monitor the delivery of the curriculum.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop PSHE in the 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.

Yours sincerely

Clive Kempton
Her Majesty's Inspector