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Ms T Richards
Headteacher
Hatfield Primary School
Lower Morden Lane
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Dear Ms Richards

Ofsted subject survey: developing children's economic well-being in primary schools

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 15 June 2009 to look at the Microsociety programme. 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 visit included discussions with yourself, the teacher with responsibility for Microsociety and Year 5 pupils and observation of one session where pupils were taking part in Microsociety.

Features of good practice observed

- The high levels of pupils' enthusiasm, involvement and enjoyment in the Microsociety activities.
- The excellent relationships between pupils and their very good social skills.
- The excellent organisational and classroom management skills demonstrated by the teacher.
- The very good use made of 'real' experiences to develop pupils' understanding.
- Pupils' developing understanding of basic economics and business vocabulary and key ideas.
- The very good communication and listening skills shown by pupils.
- The use made of adults other than teachers, such as the school bursar and local business people to support and enrich learning.
- The good use made of Microsociety to provide contexts to develop other areas of the curriculum, such as citizenship, writing, numeracy and information technology.

An area for development that we discussed was:

- checking pupils' progress in developing their understanding of key concepts and ideas.

I hope these observations are useful for the future development of work in this area.

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

David Butler
Her Majesty's Inspector