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Mrs M Stewart-Smith  
Headteacher  
Kimpton Primary School  
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Dear Mrs Stewart Smith

Ofsted 2009-10 subject survey inspection programme: physical education (PE)

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff, during my visit on 10 November 2009 to look at work in PE.

As outlined in my initial letter, as well as looking at key areas of the subject, the visit had a particular focus on the identification of an area of best practice in the subject and its impact for pupils.

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 included interviews with staff and pupils, scrutiny of relevant documentation, analysis of pupils' reports and observation of three lessons and other activities.

The overall effectiveness of PE is good.

Achievement

Achievement and enjoyment of learning are good.

- Pupils make good progress in PE. Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage all reach the expected level in physical development. The profile assessments for the last two years show high levels of achievement, which the school agrees are too positive and require moderation.
- Good progress continues as pupils move through the school. Almost all pupils in Year 6 reach Level 4 and a good proportion does better than this. Standards seen in the Year 6 lesson were above average. Pupils achieve

particularly well in games, gymnastics and athletics. All Year 4 pupils managed to swim 25 metres last year. Pupils who are talented at sport are identified and given additional challenges in lessons and in sports partnership activities.

- Pupils' personal development is enhanced significantly by their involvement in PE and sport. In lessons, everyone participates with great enthusiasm; behaviour and attitudes, especially for older pupils, are excellent. Pupils are very knowledgeable about what constitutes a healthy lifestyle and how physical activity contributes to this. Their understanding of the effects of exercise on their bodies is adequate but might be extended further for older pupils.

### Quality of teaching

The quality of teaching is good.

- Three lessons were observed during the visit; two were good and one was outstanding. All the lessons were organised well and teachers' plans identified clearly the objectives and criteria for evaluating the success of pupils' learning. Resources were chosen well to support learning and teaching assistants provided good support for individuals and groups. Pupils were able to develop and apply their skills, as well as discuss how they might improve them. In the outstanding lesson, pupils worked exceptionally well in groups, practising and refining their creative gymnastics sequences in pursuit of high-quality outcomes.
- Teachers observe pupils well in lessons and use effective questioning to involve pupils in assessing their responses. They make good coaching points to inform pupils how they might improve their work. Teachers use their own and pupils' demonstrations to show pupils what they are aiming for in their performances. Video images were used at the start of one lesson to stimulate ideas, but overall, the use of information and communication technology to support teaching, learning and assessment is an aspect which requires development.

### Quality of the curriculum

The quality of the curriculum is good.

- Pupils enjoy at least two and sometimes up to three hours of timetabled PE each week. All areas of learning are included in the curriculum, including swimming for pupils in Years 3 and 4 and outdoor and adventurous activities for pupils in Years 5 and 6. A core scheme of work is used by teachers to guide their lesson planning and some learning links are made with other subjects, for example in dance. Children in the Early Years Foundation Stage develop their physical skills well through engaging in a variety of indoor and outdoor activities.
- Pupils enjoy active break-times with equipment available for purposeful play. They also take part in a good range of lunchtime and after-school clubs run by teachers and visiting coaches. Sports coaches, including those

organised through the sports partnership, are engaged to introduce pupils to a number of new sports activities. Pupils also take part in many festivals and tournaments and have had recent successes in athletics and netball. Provision for intra-school sports activities is not as strong.

#### Effectiveness of leadership and management

The effectiveness of leadership and management is good.

- The school's involvement in the sports partnership has been used very effectively to enhance provision. Leaders have a good understanding of the strengths and areas for development in PE and priorities for improvement are set out in an action plan. Good support is given to staff through the organisation of training sessions and through demonstrating high-quality teaching and learning. Positive improvements are currently being introduced to strengthen assessment and these involve pupils taking responsibility for assessing and recording their own achievements.
- PE and sport have a suitably high profile around the school and the extra-curricular sports programme is organised well. Leaders acknowledge that the systems in place for monitoring pupils' attainment and progress and moderating teachers' assessments require strengthening. Some monitoring of teaching and learning is undertaken periodically but more subject leader non-contact time allocated through the sports partnership could be devoted to lesson observations.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- assuring the accuracy of assessments in the Early Years Foundation Stage
- continuing to build on the improvements being made in teachers' assessments in PE and establishing a system to monitor attainment and progress
- considering allocating more primary-link teacher time for monitoring and evaluation.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop physical education 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

Rob McKeown  
Her Majesty's Inspector