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Mr Ed Seeley
Headteacher
Edgewood Primary and Nursery School
Edgewood Drive
Hucknall
Nottingham
NG15 6HX

Dear Mr Seeley

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Edgewood Primary and Nursery School

Following my visit to your school on 19 May 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the findings. Thank you for the help you gave me and for the time you made available to discuss the actions you are taking to improve the school since the most recent section 5 inspection.

The visit was the first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in March 2014. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with you and other senior leaders. A telephone interview was held with the Chair of the Governing Body and with a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. During the visit, you joined me on a tour of the school where I spoke with pupils informally and looked at their work. I also scrutinised a selection of pupils' books. The school action plan was evaluated and I scrutinised additional school information. The single central record was checked.

Context

Since the section 5 inspection a new deputy headteacher has been appointed to take up post in September 2014. A teacher has returned from a long-term illness.

Main findings

You have responded quickly and positively to the recent section 5 inspection. It is clear you are determined to improve the outcomes for different groups of pupils. Your plans for improvement are correctly focused on the key areas for improvement. Other school leaders and the governing body show the same determination and focus to take the necessary actions to raise achievement in mathematics, reading, and writing. However, your plans have not linked the cost of actions to precise outcomes for pupils. Therefore, governors are not able to judge whether the actions taken are value for money.

Subject leaders in mathematics and English take responsibility for the outcomes in their subjects. They are rigorous in their analysis of data. They track the progress of different groups of pupils carefully. Subject leaders challenge their colleagues to improve their work and provide timely interventions to meet the needs of pupils who are falling behind their targets. As a result, pupils are making more rapid progress in mathematics, reading, and writing.

The quality of teaching is improving. Training to improve teachers' performance has resulted in better planning to meet the needs of different groups of pupils, including the most able. The most-able pupils make better progress than before in their learning. Teachers' marking is improving and most teachers provide pupils with comments that support them to deepen their understanding of learning. As a result, pupils' books demonstrate improvements in their understanding of how to improve their work. However, the quality of teachers' comments is not consistent in all classes.

You and the governors have developed stronger links with parents. Regular open days help parents understand how their children are learning. These days have been received positively by parents who have attended. A more rigorous approach to challenging pupils' absence through increased contact with parents is having a positive impact. As a result, you and the governors have improved the attendance of pupils, particularly those pupils who are persistently absent.

External support

The local authority has brokered support from a Local Leader of Education and her school. This has been particularly effective in developing the school leadership team. It has also provided support for the headteacher through checking the improvements in the quality of teaching and the progress of pupils.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for Nottinghamshire.

Yours sincerely

Jan Connor
Her Majesty's Inspector