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Mr P O'Rourke
St Robert's Catholic Primary School
Ainsty Road
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Dear Mr O'Rourke

Ofsted 2011–12 survey inspection programme: a review of anti-bullying practice in schools

Thank you for your hospitality and cooperation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 19 September 2011 as part of our survey of schools' work to create a positive school culture and prevent and tackle bullying.

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.

This letter briefly summarises our discussion at the end of the visit.

Strengths of this aspect of the school's work

- All pupils and adults consistently adopt the school's values in treating each other with mutual respect. Both pupils and staff place high value on treating each other as they would wish to be treated. This is because expectations are communicated clearly to all members of the community. Teachers and other adults model good manners, kindness and care.
- The school's success in helping pupils to understand how they can live up to these values can be seen especially in the playground. Older pupils show great care and kindness in building relationships with the younger pupils. In playground games, pupils consistently ensure no one is left out; consequently, the school has a happy and relaxed atmosphere.
- Pupils have a secure understanding of what bullying is and they are confident about the steps they should take if they are bullied. They also understand their responsibilities if they become aware of others being

bullied or feeling unhappy. This confidence stems from the clear guidance given to them by teachers and the prominent reminders around the school.

- Teachers and other adults are confident in dealing with bullying or inappropriate behaviour. Incidents are addressed firmly and underlying issues are carefully tackled.
- The school has a planned and coordinated curriculum to support pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development. This has a positive influence, particularly in developing pupils' appreciation of each other's differences and promoting tolerance and respect.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- improving the record-keeping and analysis of incidents to enable senior leaders to identify emerging patterns for particular groups of pupils or types of bullying
- refreshing teachers' knowledge and understanding of how to deal with different types of bullying, including homophobia and aspects of disability.

I hope that this visit has been useful in the further development of this aspect of the school's work.

As I explained previously, a copy of this letter will be published on the Ofsted website. It may be used to inform decisions about any future inspection. A copy of this letter is also being sent to your local authority.

Yours sincerely

Joan Hewitt
Her Majesty's Inspector