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Miss S Brummitt
Headteacher
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Dear Miss Brummitt

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 26 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

- The school's commitment to involving the views of pupils, parents and staff in making important decisions is effectively promoting a tolerant, respectful and happy atmosphere. Pupils regularly meet with senior leaders and governors. This has developed pupils' confidence in letting adults know how they are feeling and their skills in contributing thoughtfully to discussions about their well-being and learning.
- The strong, well-planned curriculum promotes pupils' social, moral, spiritual and cultural development effectively. Consequently, pupils can discuss their feelings and resolve disagreements with increasing maturity as they move through the school. The curriculum is supported by tailored approaches to individuals and groups, this gives the school opportunities to be highly responsive to pupils' needs.
- Pupils have a clear understanding of what bullying is and how to deal with it. This includes a robust sense of responsibility in helping others and preventing bullying behaviour. They have a well-developed sense of justice and fair play which supports them in developing as responsible citizens.

- Pupils feel very safe in school. They use the playground space well to socialise and play well-ordered games. Their care and kindness to each other is demonstrated by their effective use of the friendship stops to ensure that no child is left out during breaks and lunchtimes.
- Teachers and other adults are strongly committed to their responsibility as role models in their dealings with each other, parents, carers and pupils. This fosters an ethos of mutual respect. Senior staff are consistent in ensuring that they are available to see parents and carers at very short notice. Consequently pupils feel supported by strong partnerships between home and school.
- The school has clear strategies to deal with any inappropriate behaviour, including bullying, at an early stage. Each class has a 'red book' and this is used effectively to record issues and make sure incidents are followed up and monitored carefully.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- consolidating the skills of staff to further develop playground activities.
- further developing pupils' roles and skills as peer mentors.

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