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13 December 2012

Mrs Narinder Gill
Headteacher
Hunslet Moor Primary School
Fairford Avenue
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS11 5EL

Dear Mrs Gill

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Hunslet Moor Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 12 December 2012, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report on the findings of my visit. 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 October 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher, and the Governing Body, and there was a discussion with a representative of the local authority by telephone. The school improvement and action plans were evaluated and other documentation provided by the school was scrutinised. HMI undertook a tour of the school along with the headteacher, visiting all classrooms briefly.

Context

The school is large and expanding. It serves a diverse and changing community. Many pupils have high levels of educational and social needs. Many members of staff are relatively new to the school, with a majority of the teachers having joined in the last two years.

Main findings

Senior leaders and the governing body have begun to take effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. The school responded rapidly to the inspection outcomes, adapting its improvement plans, ensuring that a suitable level of priority has been given to the areas requiring improvement. The headteacher demonstrates drive, determination and energy and is tackling the areas for improvement with some thoroughness, particularly in relation to leadership and management. The early evidence suggests senior leaders are rising to their roles and carrying out their functions increasingly at their own initiative. The senior leaders are being supported in improving their work by appropriate structures and procedures for holding them to account for their actions. The governing body shows commitment to checking progress at the school and is firm in its questioning of senior leaders to ensure it gets accurate and sufficiently detailed information about what is happening. Since the section 5 inspection, it has, for example, ensured closer scrutiny of how the performance management of the staff has been carried out. The school has implemented its initial, short-term plans, drawn up in response to the inspection, quickly.

Following the visit to the school, HMI recommended that further action is taken to:

- extend the short-term plans to incorporate all actions required to support the school in getting to good by the time of the next inspection
- identify clearly the structures and processes that will be used to evaluate the progress of the school, rather than just checking on activities
- attend one of the Ofsted 'Getting to good' seminars, once the dates for these have been announced.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the school until its next section 5 inspection. It is recommended that HMI maintains contact with the school, with a view to visiting it again before the next section 5 inspection.

External support

The school is both responsive to and takes the initiative in identifying and obtaining external support. It is assisted in that by the local authority and the local authority is working currently to provide further elements of support connected with the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent inspection. In addition, the local authority provides an element of external evaluation of the progress of the school.

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

Yours sincerely

Clive Moss

Her Majesty's Inspector

The letter should be copied to the following:

- Appropriate authority - Chair of the Governing Body/Interim Executive Board
- Local authority
- the academy chain where relevant
- Diocese - for voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools
- The Education Funding Agency (EFA) if the school has a sixth form
- The person or body responsible for appointing foundation governors if the school has a foundation
- The lead inspector.