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19 April 2013

Mr Mark Carter-Tufnell  
Headteacher  
Kendall Church of England Primary School  
Recreation Road  
Colchester, CO1 2HH

Dear Mr Carter-Tufnell

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to Kendall Church of England Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 18 April 2013, 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 deputy headteacher, the Chair of the Governing Body and two members of the Governing Body, representatives of the local authority and the Diocese of Chelmsford and a phone conversation was held with a local leader of education. The school's action plan was evaluated.

#### **Context**

There have been no significant changes since the last inspection.

#### **Main findings**

The school's action plan is clear and sets out a comprehensive and appropriate range of actions based on the Ofsted inspection report's areas for improvement. In the light of the visit it was agreed that some planned activities could be accelerated

and timescales brought forward. Governors have been fully involved in writing the action plan and are increasingly holding the school to account. The school has worked quickly to respond to the inspection findings. More robust external guidance would make the Governing Body and school leaders even more effective. Governors, the diocese representative and the local authority representative all expressed confidence in the current leadership of the school to build on the record of solid improvement of recent years and improve the school further to become good. The main issue is ensuring consistency so that the effective practice that is found in some subjects and in some year groups is spread throughout the school and to every lesson.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following the visit to the school, HMI recommend that further action is taken to:

- increase the sense of urgency regarding timescales in the action plan
- identify and learn from practice in schools with outstanding practice, including but not limited to, those in challenging circumstances
- attend an Ofsted conference for schools to be arranged by HMI.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the school until its next section 5 inspection.

### **External support**

The school receives support from a range of external organisations including the local authority, the diocese and a local leader of education. A programme of staff training is in place involving external consultants. This needs to be supplemented by using these organisations to provide opportunities for teachers to see highly effective practice.

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

Yours sincerely

Adrian Lyons  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**