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29 May 2019

Kathy Maguire-Egan
Oakwood Infant and Nursery School
Windsor Avenue
Clacton-on-Sea
Essex
CO15 2AH

Dear Mrs Maguire-Egan

No formal designation inspection of Oakwood Infant and Nursery School

Following my visit to your school on 15 May 2019, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the inspection findings.

This monitoring inspection was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for inspecting schools with no formal designation. The inspection was carried out because Her Majesty's Chief Inspector was concerned about the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and behaviour at the school.

Evidence

I met with senior leaders and a range of other school staff. I observed pupils' behaviour throughout the day, in classrooms, the outside learning areas and on the playgrounds. I spoke to governors, parents and a local authority representative and I scrutinised school documents.

Having considered the evidence I am of the opinion that at this time:

Safeguarding is effective, and leaders and managers have taken effective action to maintain the high standards of behaviour and attitudes identified at the school's previous inspection.

Context

This school is a large infant and nursery school with over 400 pupils on roll. The proportion of pupils eligible for pupil premium funding is well above the national average.

Behaviour

Pupils at Oakwood Infant and Nursery School are happy. They work with enthusiasm on tasks in their classrooms and are polite to each other.

Outside, they enjoy the spacious grounds, skipping, climbing on the grassy mound, playing basketball and using the play equipment. Those who want to can access quieter activities inside. Over time, leaders have improved the good provision at breaktimes and lunchtimes and are continuing to do so.

Pupils are clear that any conflicts are dealt with quickly by adults, and parents and carers appreciate the positive relationship they have with the school and the excellent communication from leaders about any issues.

Younger children also behave well and adults are proactive in dealing with any poorer behaviour in a positive way.

Safeguarding

Safeguarding is effective. Staff have excellent knowledge of how to keep pupils safe and have regular training. Governors regularly check that safeguarding records are up to date and prioritise spending to enhance pupils' safety.

Leaders recently undertook a full review of the school grounds, identifying that a low fence between the early years areas and the next-door junior school was not ideal. They took immediate action by removing equipment near to the fence, installing screening and adding extra staff to supervise children in this specific area. There are plans to install a higher fence within this calendar year. As a consequence of leaders' actions, pupils are kept safe.

I am copying this letter to the chair of the governing body, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Essex. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Tessa Holledge
Her Majesty's Inspector