

Serco Education
Boundary House
2 Wythall Green
Way
Middle Lane
Birmingham
B47 6LW

T 08456 40 40 40
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T 0121 683 2033
ann.morris@ofsted.gov.uk



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Mr Peter Seargent
Breadsall CofE VC Primary School
Moor Road
Breadsall
Derby
DE21 5LA

Dear Mr Seargent

Ofsted monitoring of Grade 3 schools

Thank you for the help which you and your staff gave when I inspected your school on 25 November 2009 and for the information which you provided before and during my visit. Please pass on my thanks to the pupils and governors that I spoke to.

As a result of the inspection on 8 October 2008, the school was asked to

- Ensure that the school leadership team develop practices across the school that enable children to make consistent progress.
- Raise the quality of the provision in order that children achieve well.
- Ensure that the learning environment enables children in the Early Years Foundation Stage to make choices and become independent learners inside and outside.

Having considered all the evidence I am of the opinion that at this time the school has made good progress in making improvements and good progress in demonstrating a better capacity for sustained improvement.

Since the previous inspection progress has continued to accelerate. Effective procedures for monitoring and evaluating progress have been instrumental in ensuring this continued improvement. School assessment information and 2009 test results for pupils in Year 6 show that attainment has improved. Standards are above average overall as is the proportion of pupils who reached the higher level 5.



The impact of the new headteacher is increasing as he effectively communicates a shared vision, high expectations and ambition. Senior leaders and governors have strengthened procedures for checking the work of the school. Close tracking of pupils' progress by leaders is helping to raise teachers' expectations and the impact they can make on pupils' learning. Senior leaders have set challenging targets and there is a strong focus on improving aspects of teaching and learning through the successful implementation of a new teaching and learning policy, as well as a rigorous programme of monitoring. Recently appointed senior leaders and subject leaders are ably supported by the headteacher so that the impact of their leadership is making a positive contribution to raising standards.

The headteacher has an accurate view of the quality of teaching across the school and a good understanding of its strengths and areas for development. The teaching observed during this visit matched the headteacher's evaluation and is good overall. Across the school, teachers' planning identifies different tasks and outcomes for all groups of pupils including higher attaining pupils and those who require additional support. This is ensuring that all pupils are making better progress since the last inspection. Pupils were enthusiastic in lessons. Relationships and behaviour were consistently good. Changes to the curriculum are still in the very early stages of development, but are already having a positive impact on improving pupils' motivation. The Literacy leader has made an excellent start to introducing ideas for planning more flexibly and creatively, based on pupils' interests, which include purposeful and exciting opportunities for writing.

Good progress is being made to improving the quality of provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The learning environment has been significantly adapted to ensure that children can enjoy making their own choices and learn independently. Additionally, there has been significant investment in new resources. Whilst independent activities are increasingly matched to children's needs and interests, the learning outcomes are not always clear. This is because planning does not always identify the skills to be developed. Children show positive attitudes to their work, have the confidence to initiate activities for themselves, as well as to follow clearly established routines. Adults have good relationships with children and inspire confidence and success. The new purpose built outdoor area provides a high quality, imaginative and safe area in which children can play and learn.

Reports show that the school benefits from the challenge and support received from the regular visits made by the school improvement partner.

I hope that you have found the visit helpful in promoting improvement in your school. This letter will be posted on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Dorothy Bathgate
Her Majesty's Inspector

