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26 June 2014

Mr Paul Stock
Headteacher
Trimley St Martin Primary School
Kirtton Road
Trimley St Martin
Suffolk
IP11 0QL

Dear Mr Stock

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Trimley St Martin Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 25 June 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the inspection findings. 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 second monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in 21 November 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection.

Evidence

During the inspection, meetings were held with you, other senior leaders, two members of the governing body and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last monitoring inspection. The school development plan was evaluated. An opportunity to walk the school with you provided me with time to observe pupils at work in lessons.

Context

Since the last inspection, the only significant staff change is that you joined the school as the new headteacher in September 2013.

Main findings

You have established yourself quickly as headteacher and are leading rapid improvements to the school. Your knowledge and enthusiasm are adding drive and impetus to improving the quality of teaching. Expectations of what pupils are capable of achieving are much higher.

Staff morale is high. You have convinced staff that they are fully capable of ensuring that all pupils make sufficient progress based on their starting points. Classrooms and corridors feature rich, vibrant displays of pupils' work. The school remains a calm, friendly place where pupils behave well. The number of pupils joining the school is rising.

Senior leaders are much clearer about their roles and responsibilities and are working more effectively as a team. Leaders of literacy, numeracy and the Early Years Foundation Stage are driving improvements in their areas and know how well pupils in all classes are progressing. Added rigour to lesson monitoring, scrutiny of pupils' work and analysing the impact teaching on pupils' learning and progress is leading to greater consistency in the overall quality teaching.

Data is being used more systematically to provide a clearer picture of how well individual pupils are doing and to target additional support towards those who need it most. Current data shows that all Year 6 pupils are expected to meet or exceed expectations in national tests this year. There is a renewed confidence amongst senior leaders that these improvements are sustainable and are preparing the school well for its re-inspection.

Governors make regular visits to observe the school's work and demonstrate an improved understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development, including the quality of teaching. Recent training is enabling them to pose suitably challenging questions to the senior leaders about the impact of changes and the rate of improvement being made. Safeguarding procedures remain secure.

External support

The school continues to work effectively with the local authority to validate its views of the progress made by pupils and on the overall effectiveness of the school. It is also developing new partnerships with local schools and schools outside of the region to promote and share good practice.

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

Yours sincerely

John Mitcheson
Her Majesty's Inspector