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Chris Green
Headteacher
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Dear Mr Green

Ofsted visit to Brook Community Primary School

Following my visit with Harry Ingham, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 22 October 2020, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the visit's findings. Thank you for the time you made available to discuss your actions since September 2020, when the government expected all schools to open fully to all pupils.

This visit was conducted under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 (as amended) and in accordance with Ofsted's published procedures for visiting schools while routine inspections are temporarily suspended.

Ofsted's visits to schools during the autumn term are not inspections. We are not giving graded judgements. We did not undertake the usual range of inspection activities and were unable to check other sources of evidence, such as visits to lessons or looking at pupils' work. The content of this letter gives an overview of our discussions about what has happened in your school this term.

During the visit, we spoke to you and your senior teacher. We did not speak to pupils because of the protective measures in place.

Context

Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills is leading Ofsted's work into how England's education system is managing the return to full

education for pupils, following an extended break in formal schooling due to the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

In undertaking this focused work, HMI are visiting a broad range of schools. HMI will visit a sample of:

- approximately 1,200 schools across all Ofsted grades (outstanding, good, requires improvement and inadequate)
- maintained schools, academies and free schools, special schools and centres of alternative provision, including those in cities, and coastal, town or rural communities.

The information from this visit will feed into Ofsted's national reporting so that the insights can be shared with the government and the education sector. We did not find any significant concerns during the visit. In such a case, an inspection report would be published on our website and available to parents and carers.

We did not consider your response to COVID-19 during the spring and summer terms 2020, when the school was not open to all pupils.

From this visit, inspectors noted that:

- The school opened to pupils in Years 1 to 6 on 2 September 2020. Children in Reception joined the school on 4 September and have been expected to attend full time since then.
- Current attendance is slightly better than normal for this time of year.
- Pupils are currently studying the normal range of subjects. Indoor physical education is not taking place at the moment, because the hall is set up to accommodate different 'bubbles' for lunch and wraparound care.
- Your teachers have used a range of assessments to identify pupils' new starting points in reading and writing. Teachers are now planning to develop the fluency and comprehension skills of pupils who may have fallen behind in reading. Teachers have also noticed that pupils are needing more work on the accurate use of grammar and punctuation in their writing.
- In mathematics, there is a greater focus on teaching number skills including multiplication and division in Years 5 and 6.
- In personal, social and health education, learning has been adapted to give pupils more opportunities to talk about their well-being.
- If there is a further lockdown, you plan to provide remote education online in all subjects. You plan to develop your systems to ensure that the vast majority of pupils complete the work set.

Thank you again for contributing to this important national work. The views and experiences you have shared will help to inform future policy.

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

Yours sincerely

Lee Selby
Her Majesty's Inspector