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Peter Dalby and Emma Haywood
Headteachers
King Edwin Primary and Foundation Unit
Fourth Avenue
Edwinstowe
Mansfield
NG21 9NS

Dear Mr Dalby and Ms Haywood

Special measures monitoring inspection of King Edwin Primary and Foundation Unit

Following my visit to your school on 16 January 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to confirm the inspection findings. Thank you for the help you gave during the inspection and for the time you made available to discuss the actions which have been taken since the school's recent section 5 inspection.

The inspection was the first monitoring inspection since the school became subject to special measures following the inspection which took place on 9 October 2012.

Evidence

During this inspection, meetings were held with the headteachers, special educational needs co-ordinator (SENCO)/inclusion manager, Chair of the Governing Body and two parent governors, an education improvement adviser from the local authority, and a local leader in education who is supporting the school. The local authority's statement of action and the school's improvement plan were evaluated.

Context

There have been no changes in the school's status since the section 5 inspection which placed the school into special measures. The local authority has commissioned a headteacher from a successful school (a local leader in education) to provide support to leaders and managers.

The quality of leadership and management at the school

The leadership and management of the school are strengthening at a rapid pace. The whole staff group have responded well to input from the local authority advisers and partners. Training has been sharply focused to tackle the school's immediate needs. All action taken has been carefully thought out and is appropriate. Consequently, improvements have already been noted in developing greater consistency in teaching and learning across the school, which is all being checked regularly and systematically by those staff with particular responsibilities to do so. Data being collected on pupils' progress and achievement is now being used to shape planning which more closely meets pupils' differing capabilities. Staff who provide additional support to pupils are working more effectively as a team and their role is being closely checked for its impact on speeding up the progress of those pupils at risk of not doing as well.

The governing body has reorganised their committee structure and there is greater understanding of how governors will check on the school's performance and provide suitable challenge. Good attention has been paid to providing continuity for any classes who require temporary teachers to cover planned absence. There has also been rigorous attention to finding a successor following the long-serving headteacher's imminent retirement. Everyone is committed to ensuring the school is successfully removed from special measures in the shortest possible time.

Following the monitoring inspection the following judgements were made:

The local authority statement of action is fit for purpose.

The school's improvement plan is fit for purpose.

The school may appoint a newly qualified teacher before the next monitoring inspection to the Early Years Foundation Stage Unit.

I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Governing Body and the Service Director for Education Standards and Inclusion in Nottinghamshire. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Jane Melbourne
Her Majesty's Inspector