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5 February 2013

Miss Rhiannon Price  
Headteacher  
Dundry Church of England Primary School  
110 Dundry Lane  
Bristol  
BS41 8JE

Dear Miss Price

### **Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education Act 2005 to Dundry Church of England Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 5 February 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report on the findings of my visit. 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 first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in December 2012. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

#### **Evidence**

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher. I met with the Vice Chair of the Governing Body and another governor. I had a discussion with a representative from the local authority. The school action plans were evaluated. During a tour of the school I talked to pupils about their work.

#### **Context**

Since the monitoring inspection in June 2011, three new governors have joined the governing body.

#### **Main findings**

The headteacher is leading the school in a determined manner. Actions plans are sharp with timely and appropriate actions. Staff have benefitted from training by school leaders and external consultants. The staff I spoke to said that the training on

reading was 'brilliant'. Staff use the work of different authors to plan lessons, which inspire pupils to write. This means that the quality of written work is now consistently better across the school than previously. Teachers have high expectations about the presentation of pupils' work. Pupils I spoke to were quite rightly proud of their efforts. Teachers model good standards of handwriting, in line with the school's handwriting policy, in their marking comments and when writing on the board. There is also more attention to detail than before in the way teachers mark pupils' work. Comments advise pupils how to improve their work and are routinely included in everyone's marking.

Governors are clear about how to evaluate the success of school actions to move teaching to at least good. Members of the governing body also have responsibility for monitoring all aspects of the school's work. There are clear lines of communication for reporting back to the whole governing body on governor monitoring visits to school. This is working well.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement, identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following the visit to the school, HMI recommend that further action is taken to:

- ensure governors keep their finger on the pulse of improvement by focusing even more precisely on raising standards in English and mathematics
- provide governors with a range of different activities to evaluate the success of actions taken in improving school performance.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the school until its next section 5 inspection.

### **External support**

The school appreciates the training and support from the local authority. Governors have reflected on their own effectiveness in balancing support with asking challenging questions. Experienced governors have sharpened up the way they work, raised expectations for all governors, which is quickly bringing new governors up to speed. These are all positive steps.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for North Somerset and as below.

Yours sincerely

Jane Neech

**Her Majesty's Inspector**