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Rebecca Flynn
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Dear Mrs Flynn

Ofsted visit to The Trinity Catholic Primary School

Following my visit with Claire Cropper, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 29 September 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, the deputy headteacher, the two assistant headteachers and the members of staff who lead on safeguarding and attendance. 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 all pupils on 2 September 2020.
- During the first week of term, pupils' attendance was at a similar level to the same period last year. However, due to two separate outbreaks of COVID-19, pupils in Year 5 and Year 6 are currently not attending school.
- Since the start of the new school year, teachers have focused on personal, social and health education. You believe that this has been instrumental in helping pupils to make a smooth transition back into school life.
- You told us that reading remains at the heart of the school's work. Teachers are currently carrying out assessments to establish pupils' new starting points. You are providing support for pupils who are struggling with their reading abilities, particularly younger pupils who have fallen behind in their knowledge of phonics.
- In mathematics, you plan to ask teachers to formally assess pupils' knowledge within the next few weeks. You intend to use this information to identify important learning that may have been missed during the summer term.
- All pupils are studying all of the subjects in their usual curriculum. Subject leaders and teachers are developing plans to incorporate aspects of the work that pupils missed during the summer term into this year's curriculum.
- In response to your experiences during the period when schools were only open to some pupils due to COVID-19 restrictions, teachers have refined the school's curriculum plans to incorporate remote learning. You have created a

bank of online content for pupils who are unable to attend school. This covers all curriculum areas. You have also ensured that paper-based resources are available for those who do not have access to technology.

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 director of education for the Diocese of Liverpool, the regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for Liverpool. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Paul Tomkow
Her Majesty's Inspector