

CfBT Inspection Services
Suite 22
West Lancs Investment Centre T 0300 123 1231
Maple View Text Phone: 0161 6188524 **Direct T** 01695 566933
Skelmersdale enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk **Direct F** 01965 729320
WN8 9TG www.ofsted.gov.uk **Direct email:** ggleaden@cfbt.com

19 December 2012

Mrs B Atkinson
Headteacher
The Oak Tree Primary School
Newham Grange Avenue
Stockton-on-Tees
County Durham
TS19 0SE

Dear Mrs Atkinson

Special measures monitoring inspection of The Oak Tree Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 18 December 2012, 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 in September 2012.

Evidence

During this inspection, meetings were held with the headteacher, the Chair of the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority. The local authority's statement of action and the school's action plan were evaluated.

Context

The school is recruiting two new team leaders and a seconded teacher has been offered a permanent post. One teacher is on long-term absence. An Interim Executive Board is replacing the governing body.

The quality of leadership and management at the school

Leaders and managers are starting to take effective action to address the points for improvement identified in the last report. For example, the achievement of pupils is tracked more rigorously and current school information indicates it is rising. Underachievement is being tackled and leaders are making sure the school is moving in the right direction.

Ambition to improve is firmly embedded and senior leaders have a clear vision for the future. Governors' understanding of pupils' learning and progress has recently increased and they recognise the need for change. Plans are well advanced to create an Interim Executive Board which will significantly strengthen the school's capacity to improve.

Following the monitoring inspection the following judgements were made:

The local authority statement of action is fit for purpose

The school's improvement and action plan is fit for purpose

The school may not appoint newly qualified teachers before the next monitoring inspection.

This monitoring inspection letter will be published on the Ofsted website. I am copying this letter to the Secretary of State, the Chair of the Governing Body and the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care for Stockton.

Yours sincerely

Paul Hancock
Her Majesty's Inspector