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Mr Gavin Salvesen-Sawh
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Monday, 05 December 2005

Dear Mr Salvesen-Sawh,

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff during my recent visit to your school to look at work in personal, social and health education (PSHE).

The visit provided much useful evidence for reporting in PSHE. The school will not be named in any publication without your permission and most evidence will be used at a general level, to identify trends and issues for development.

I undertook a brief written summary of the main points discussed in my feedback at the end of the visit.

The overall effectiveness of PSHE was judged to be **outstanding**.

Achievement and Standards

The comprehensive and age appropriate programme enables all pupils to explore their own and other peoples' attitudes and behaviour in a practical and sensitive setting. For example, the 'dramatic' talk by the prison inmates had a well judged if chilling impact, as did the potentially life saving presentation by the British Railway Police. Older pupils' modelling of business practice and the development of their skills as independent learners is making a positive impact on their ability to work effectively in team situations in order to reach successful outcomes.

Quality of Provision

The use of outside 'experts' ensures that all pupils benefit from a content that is up to date and is well selected so that it has the maximum impact. For example, the 'RAP and rhyme' artiste brought the meaning of the term 'race' alive, while the work on the 'melanin trail' really made the pupils think hard about their own backgrounds and cultural origins. The programme also ideally complements other aspects of the school's work such as the 'X Learning' events, the effective work of the School Council and the pupils' efforts on behalf of local charities and disadvantaged groups, as well as organisations such as Amnesty International.

Subject leadership and Management

Developments in the provision of PSHE have been significant since the last school inspection. Considerable progress has been made over the two years since the programme's inception; and crucially the school seeks further improvement. Issues are now tackled in depth. The programme embraces all pupils and engages them very well. Careers education and guidance is fully integrated in the PSHE programme. The documentation supporting the programme is exemplary, as is actual organisation of events. This ensures excellent use is made of time and outstanding value for money is achieved. Excellent management of this aspect of the school's work reflects very effective partnership with others, including from the public services.

Areas for improvement, which we discussed, include:

- Involve parents and governors that they can see for themselves the high quality of provision.
- Build in pupils' evaluation as a matter of routine, as you do for the various contributors.

If you or your co-ordinator wish to discuss any of these issues I can be contacted by telephone on 01509 880675 (work) or by e-mail at hmoreton@ctbt-inspections.com.

A copy of this feedback will be sent to your LEA and will be made available to the team for your next institutional inspection. It will not be published.

Yours sincerely

Henry Moreton