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23 November 2020

Sarah Bone  
Headteacher  
Headlands School  
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Bridlington  
East Yorkshire  
YO16 6UR

Dear Mrs Bone

### **Ofsted remote visit to Headlands School**

Following my remote visit with Tim Scargill-Knight, Her Majesty's Inspector (HMI), to your school on 10 November 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. Following changes to government guidance and the imposition of COVID-19 (coronavirus) lockdown restrictions, we made this visit remotely to reduce pressure on the school.

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 and the senior leadership team. We did not speak to pupils.

### **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 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:**

- At the time of the visit, the Year 8 and sixth-form 'bubbles' were self-isolating. This meant that 327 pupils were learning remotely. The Year 10 bubble closed previously, so more than half of your pupils have worked at home for up to ten days since the start of term.
- You explained that pupils in Years 7 to 10 are studying the usual range of subjects that make up the school's curriculum.
- Teachers have identified the starting points of the pupils new to the school in Year 7. Learning tutors go into lessons to support pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities. Other professionals visit school to work directly with all pupils who have an education, health and care plan.
- The deputy headteacher met with Year 11 pupils to review pupils' earlier options for examination subjects. Their parents were also consulted. You told us that 50 Year 11 pupils decided to drop one of their examination subjects to give them more time to focus on their studies in other subjects.
- Some Year 13 students have chosen to repeat Year 12 completely. Other sixth-form students have chosen to repeat their Year 12 learning in some subjects.
- When pupils are self-isolating, teachers stream online lessons that match that day's timetable. If two siblings are self-isolating, they both need access to a device so that each pupil can join in with their lesson. You have provided

extra equipment to siblings, or for individual pupils who cannot access a device at home.

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 regional schools commissioner and the director of children's services for East Riding. This letter will be published on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Tracey Ralph  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**