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8 October 2015

Miss Pam Keen
Headteacher
Priory CofE Primary School
Jubilee Road, Trentham
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire
ST4 8EF

Sir Michael Wilshaw
Her Majesty's Chief Inspector

Dear Miss Keen

Removal from special measures

I am writing to congratulate you, your staff, the governing body, parents, carers and pupils on the decision that Priory CofE Primary School no longer requires special measures.

I know that progress has been the result of hard work and commitment on the part of many people, especially you and your staff. It is clear from the inspection report that your determination to make the necessary changes, together with the highly effective support of your senior leaders and the Interim Executive Board, have brought about significant improvements in all areas.

I am particularly pleased to note that the quality of teaching is now good, with some that is outstanding. Teachers plan lessons well so that pupils are set challenging work appropriate to their abilities, enabling them to make good progress. It is also good to know that teachers are fully supported with their training and development needs. These strategies have had a notable impact on pupils' achievement and this is evident in the rapid progress now being made in reading, writing and mathematics.

It is encouraging to read that pupils learn about the history of their local area and have produced artwork reflecting the history of the Staffordshire potteries. Pupils are also given the opportunity to question and discuss issues around tolerance and justice through learning about the suffragette movement. This forms a good basis to prepare pupils for life in modern Britain.

I hope you, your staff and governors are celebrating the success of all the efforts made on the journey out of special measures, which may well have included some difficult times. I trust you agree that the progress made has been to the benefit of the pupils in your care.

I wish you every success in your continuing drive for further improvement in the months and years ahead.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Richard Wilshaw".

Sir Michael Wilshaw