Dear Parents

All church schools have a Church Schools’ inspection to review the impact the Christian ethos has on outcomes for children. Our most recent inspection took place on the 30th November 2016.

**The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Christ Church School as a Church of England school are outstanding.**

***School comment: The school first received an outstanding grade in November 2011. We are delighted to have sustained our distinctiveness and effectiveness throughout the expansion of the school from 244 children in 2011, to the current 360 children.***

Some highlights from the attached report of our latest inspection are as follows:

**The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is outstanding at meeting the needs of all learners**

The school’s Christian character is evident in every aspect of its life and work and is summed up in its vision statement that this is ‘an expression of the love of God in the community’.

Christian values shape the excellent, warm trusting relationships between and among adults and pupils.

Pupils know that they are loved by God and are safe, valued and special. Because they are so securely affirmed they attend school regularly, behave impeccably and work hard.

Pupils appreciate the rich diversity of their school and they say that, ‘we really respect each other’s faith and culture’. This mutual respect is evident in the way that they care for and find opportunities to serve each other.

**The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding**

Collective worship lies at the heart of the school, making it a real worshipping and prayerful community.

Irrespective of their personal faith or belief, all adults and learners are affirmed by worship, regard it as an important part of their lives and know what it means to be a person of faith.

Pupils come to worship enthusiastically; they participate willingly and behave reverently. This is, for them, a key part of their day and an essential part of their developing spiritual and moral journey.

Parents of all faiths report that their children bring prayer and singing into their homes, ask questions about what they have learnt in worship and so enrich home life.

**The effectiveness of religious education is good**

Teaching is consistently good. Pupils say that teachers make RE fun because they engage in a range of interesting activities. They say that the only way to improve it would be to do more of it!

The work being done to link RE with other subjects is a very significant strength because this underlines the way that faith and belief are not limited to a single academic area.

Pupils leave the school with a good foundation of Christian understanding and a developing knowledge of and real interest in other key faiths and beliefs.

Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is promoted at a high level.

**The effectiveness of leadership and management of the school as a church school is outstanding.**

Key leaders and governors share and articulate an ambitious Christian vision for the school that is lived it out in their commitment to make its work ‘an expression of God’s love in the community’. This vision is driving the school on a road of continuous improvement where faith is at the centre and Christian values are paramount.

Because all unite behind this vision, leaders, governors and staff work together with a shared understanding of the importance of Christian values to all that the school does.

Parents recognise this, saying, for example, that when it comes to dealing with conflict, the influence of Christian values are evident and actions are rooted in reason, justice and forgiveness. They say that is a real strength of the school and underpins it.

Mary Pike

Head Teacher

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