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23rd. February 2016

Sheila Storey
Whinmoor St Paul's CE Primary School,
Whinmoor Crescent,
Leeds
LS14 1EG

Dear Mrs Storey,

SIAMS Review

Thank you very much for your hospitality and co –operation, and that of your staff and pupils, during my visit on 23rd February 2016 to undertake a SIAMS review. It was a great pleasure to spend time in your school and also with the Religious Education Leader, Helen Richardson and learn more about your progress since the last SIAS Inspection.

As discussed during the visit, key strengths which have been maintained and areas of progress made since the last inspection include:

- Since the last section 48 inspection the school has maintained its ethos of care and respect and is a place where all are warmly welcomed. The quality of relationships is clearly evident.
- In this inclusive school standards of teaching and learning are continuing to improve. A newly formed leadership team will ensure its impact through continual monitoring and challenge. Milestones in the school's action plan will be half termly evaluated by the joint review group which includes representation from Leeds LEA.
- The learning walk evidenced a calm, purposeful atmosphere with good behaviour based on the Christian values of respect and tolerance.
- Attendance is in line with national expectations due to the caring, Christian family ethos. Pupils and their families are well supported especially in times of need.
- Since the last inspection and SIAMS review good progress has been made in using the Christian Values for Life resources in collective worship. The views of children, staff and parents have been sort through questionnaires and feedback. These are very encouraging. Furthermore, pupils have been regularly involved in leading worship by using materials like Flippin` Praise. Children find worship more interactive and challenging.

- Assessment and monitoring in RE has continued to develop across the school to inform planning and next steps. A new challenge has been recording data, since the national introduction of life without levels in September 2015. A whole school system is being introduced and developed in all subjects and areas of provision.
- Pupils continue to show a good understanding of the Christian view of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Links with the local church have been maintained and developed. Whilst parents and the local community continue to be very supportive of the school.

We discussed some possible areas to consider focusing on in order to continue to improve the distinctiveness and effectiveness of your school as a Church of England School are as follows:-

- The school urgently needs one parent and one foundation governor.
- A church and community governor's sub- committee has been set up which will enable the evaluation of the school as a church school, a timetable of monitoring visits and provide a forum for the RE Leader to report on RE within the school. Outcomes from this group should be reported back to the full governing body and feed into the school improvement plan.
- To encourage greater understanding of the Christian values for life consider displays which can include a biblical story and artefacts for the current value using resources like Pause to Reflect on Values. Story bags would also enable more discussion in class or small groups in KS1. These resources allow children a greater insight into the values in order that they can relate them to their own ideas and experiences. On the school website parents and the community could be informed of the current value in order to promote discuss at home.
- Establishing reflective and prayer areas both inside and outside school would provide opportunities for spiritual development of pupils and adults and involve the whole school community.
- Develop an enquiry based approach to RE in the school to provide more challenge for pupils and allow the children to express their thoughts and views on spiritual and moral issues and ask `big` questions. Some of the evidence from which can be stored in `Big Books`.

I hope these observations are useful, as you continue to improve as a Church of England School.

Once again thank you for your time, your honesty and your determination to increase the distinctiveness and effectiveness of Whinmoor St Paul's Church of England Primary School.

Yours sincerely,
Linda Dixon,

SIAMS Inspector

CC. Fiona Beevers, Diocesan Education Team.