

CfBT Inspection Services T 0300 1231231
Suite 22 enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
West Lancs Investment Centre www.ofsted.gov.uk
Maple View
Skelmersdale
WN8 9TG

Direct T 01695 566934
Direct F 01695 729320
gtunncliffe@cfbt.com
www.cfbt-inspections.com



05 Apr 2011

Headteacher
Corpus Christi RC Primary School
Cargo Fleet Lane
Middlesbrough
North Yorkshire
TS3 8NL

Dear Sir/Madam

Ofsted monitoring of Grade 3 schools: monitoring inspection of Corpus Christi RC Primary School

Thank you for the help which you and your staff gave when I inspected your school on 5 April 2011, for the time you gave to our phone discussions and for the information which you provided before and during the inspection. Please pass on my thanks to the pupils, staff and the Chair of the Governing Body who all gave up their time to talk with me.

Since the last inspection, three teachers have left the school and three have joined. A newly appointed teacher has responsibility for Key Stage 1. One teacher is currently absent due to long-term illness and this class is taught by a supply teacher.

As a result of the inspection on 29 April 2009, the school was asked to address the most important areas for improvement which are set out in the annex to this letter.

Having considered all the evidence I am of the opinion that at this time the school has made satisfactory progress in making improvements and satisfactory progress in demonstrating a better capacity for sustained improvement.

Results of tests and assessments in 2009 indicate that attainment at the end of Year 2 and Year 6 was low and value added data shows that the progress of Year 6 pupils was inadequate. However, in 2010 attainment improved. Pupils in Year 2 reached levels of attainment that were broadly average in writing and mathematics although they remained significantly below average in reading. In Year 6, pupils' attainment improved markedly in mathematics but was below average in English. Pupils' progress is now tracked more carefully and individual specialist help in both literacy and numeracy is given to those who need it. This intervention in pupils learning is beginning to raise levels of attainment particularly in numeracy. However, the school has yet to evaluate fully the impact of this work on helping pupils to reach their targets.

Pupils' achievement and progress are now beginning to accelerate because teaching and learning are improving. Although some pupils have underachieved in the past this lost

January 2011



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

ground is now being made up as weaker teaching is being eliminated and the increasing amount of good practice shared more widely. Teachers have received valuable professional development. Consequently, they have higher expectations of their pupils, have improved questioning skills and make better use of assessment to help their pupils learn effectively. Younger pupils were seen to be really enjoying learning and making very good progress in a numeracy lesson where they confidently handled calculations which involved multiplication of amounts of money. Teaching assistants are well deployed and give pupils, particularly those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, constructive individual help so they make progress in line with their peers.

Since the last inspection, plans for school improvement have been streamlined and areas for improvement have been prioritised more precisely. There is a firm focus on raising attainment and accelerating progress. School self-evaluation is now more rigorous and teaching and learning are monitored regularly. The school now has a stable teaching staff and a newly appointed leader of Key Stage 1 is bringing valuable expertise to the developing senior team. Consequently, the school is now building a growing capacity for sustained improvement.

The school has received good support from the local authority and particularly from the School Improvement Partner. They have assisted in the monitoring and evaluation of lessons, provided training and guidance for staff in aspects of teaching and learning and provided support for the headteacher in improving whole-school planning.

I hope that you have found the inspection helpful in promoting improvement in your school. This letter will be posted on the Ofsted website.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Ann Wallis
Additional Inspector

Annex

The areas for improvement identified during the inspection which took place on 29 April 2009

- Raise standards by increasing the incidence of good or better teaching.
- Prioritise areas for improvement more precisely.
- Ensure that improvements in one subject do not detract from the maintenance of standards in another.