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14 June 2013

Nikki Mobley
Headteacher
All Saints Church of England Primary School, Freshwater
School Green Road
Freshwater
PO40 9AX

Dear Ms Mobley

Requires improvement monitoring inspection visit under section 8 of the Education act 2005 to All Saints Church of England Primary School, Freshwater, Isle of Wight Local Authority

Following my visit to your school on 13 June 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report on the findings of my visit. Thank you for the help you gave me and for the time you made available to discuss the actions you are taking to improve the school since the most recent section 5 inspection.

The visit was the first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in March 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Evidence

During the visit, meetings were held with the headteacher, deputy headteacher, middle leaders and members of the governing body. A telephone conversation was held with a representative of the local authority. The school improvement plan was evaluated and a number of other documents were considered. I also made brief visits to a number of mathematics lessons.

Context

The school's deputy headteacher is leaving the school at the end of term. A new appointment has been made for September 2013.

Main findings

You and the school's other leaders fully accept and acknowledge the inspection judgements and findings. You are focusing on the most important areas and are not being distracted by peripheral matters. It is clear that you have high standards and considerable ambition for the school. Middle leaders are making an increasing contribution to the school's improvement. They are now making better use of what they find when they monitor the school's work when they plan their actions for the future.

The school's main focus is, rightly, on getting consistently good teaching. Lessons are observed frequently and teachers given useful feedback to help them to improve. A range of leaders carry out these observations. While this is valuable, more needs to be done to ensure that everyone is viewing and judging what they see in lessons in exactly the same way. Teachers measure pupils' achievement regularly. This information is analysed well and leaders check carefully on the progress that different groups are making.

The action plan in place before the inspection correctly identified the most important priorities and actions for the school; only very minor amendments were necessary. This is a good plan with many strengths. For example, it sets out very clear targets for pupils' achievement at different points during the year. It also usefully sets out a series of key questions that leaders and governors will ask to test the impact of the school's actions. This helps to focus everyone's minds on the most important issues.

Governors understand the school's strengths and weaknesses. They check things for themselves well, for example by visiting school and by sitting in on meetings between teachers and leaders. Governors' visits are carefully planned to ensure that their purpose is clear and understood by everyone. Meetings of the governing body focus on the key areas for improvement for the school. However, at times meetings get into too much detail about matters best left to the school's leaders. The review of the governing body suggested in the section 5 inspection reports has not yet been carried out.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. Following the visit to the school, HMI recommend that further action is taken to:

- undertake the review of the governing body suggested in the section 5 report
- ensure that other leaders' judgements about the quality of teaching are consistent by observing some lessons jointly with you.

Ofsted will continue to monitor the school until its next section 5 inspection.

External support

The local authority staff have responded positively to requests for support. For example, they recently helped the school to appoint a new deputy headteacher. The

local authority has also brokered a link with another school on the island. This school is led by a local leader in education. There has been good negotiation with you to ensure that this linked school and headteacher are credible and appropriate to your school's needs. The link has been made, although the relationship is at an early stage.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for Isle of Wight Local Authority.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Russell
Her Majesty's Inspector