

Serco Inspections
Colmore Plaza
20 Colmore Circus Queensway
Birmingham
B4 6AT

T 0300 123 1231
Text Phone: 0161 6188524
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T 0121 679 9161
Direct email: ann.morris@serco.com



10 July 2013

Cathy Freeth
Acting headteacher
Kilsby Church of England Primary School
Manor Road
Kilsby
Rugby
CV23 8XS

Dear Mrs Freeth

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Kilsby Church of England Primary School

Following my visit to your school on 9 July 2013, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report 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 you and the Vice-Chair of the Governing Body to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. A local authority representative did not attend but sent an e-mail outlining their view of the progress the school is making. The school action plan was evaluated. A brief learning walk was also undertaken by the acting headteacher and the HMI.

Context

The school is currently in negotiations with the Department for Education and six local schools to form a multi-academy trust (MAT). It is expected that the arrangements will be completed towards the end of the Autumn Term.

There have been several significant changes to staffing since the Section 5 inspection. The current acting headteacher will be appointed to the permanent

headship from September 2013. The substantive senior teacher is absent due to ill health and a teacher is covering the role as acting senior teacher.

Main findings

Following the section 5 inspection, the acting headteacher adapted the improvement plan to take in to account the recommendations within the report. The plan now clearly shows what steps are required and how they will be monitored and evaluated by leaders and the governing body. This term, the acting headteacher is taking responsibility for the development of both mathematics and English. The latter responsibility will be passed to another teacher from September and the acting headteacher will continue her involvement in an advisory capacity. As other teachers settle in to their posts, they will be given more responsibility for monitoring their areas, with appropriate support.

Actions taken since the inspection, have had a clear impact on the quality of teaching generally across the school and on the progress being made in lessons. However, recent enforced changes to the teaching staff have meant that some temporary measures are required from September. It is not yet possible to see the impact of these staffing changes, although the evidence from the learning walk during this visit, suggests that the changes so far implemented by the acting headteacher have contributed well to improved provision. One teacher is being provided with high levels of support and training to move their teaching to good. The governing body are monitoring the progress of the school against the plan and have a clear view of how the school is performing; they are holding the acting headteacher to account for this. New governors are also accessing training and induction courses for the local authority governor support services.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. The school should take further action to:

- Ensure that the headteacher will attend Ofsted's 'Getting to Good' seminar in the Autumn Term
- monitor the impact of the changes in staff due to take effect from September and will keep HMI informed of any evaluations as they happen

HMI will provide support by:

- Undertaking joint lesson observations with the headteacher in the Autumn Term to evaluate the quality of teaching in the school
- Monitoring the reports to governors and the headteacher's evaluations of the impact of the action plan. Headteacher to forward reports to HMI as they are produced

Ofsted may carry out further visits and, where necessary, provide further support and challenge to the school until its next section 5 inspection.

External support

The acting headteacher's current substantive role is as a part of the local authority's school improvement service. As a result of this, the local authority has relied on her evaluation of the school's progress and improvement. This has led to a minimal 'light touch' approach from the local authority. However, support has also been provided through other aspect of the local authority such as providing training for new governors. Currently the local authority's strategy is appropriate as the acting headteacher as developed an accurate view of the school's strengths and areas for development.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for insert local authority name and as below.

Yours sincerely

David Muir
Her Majesty's Inspector