

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](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

**Direct T:** 0121 6799169  
**Direct email:** mathew.mitchell@serco.com



4 December 2013

Emma Jones  
Headteacher  
Crawford's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School  
Green Road  
Haughley  
IP14 3QZ

Dear Mrs Jones

**Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Crawford's Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 3 December 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 September 2013. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

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 action to:

- Further develop the partnerships established with other schools to strengthen and sustain leadership at all levels.

**Evidence**

During the visit, meetings were held with you, two governors, a representative of the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and a representative of Suffolk local authority to discuss the actions taken since the last inspection. The school's action plan and your self-evaluation were considered and brief visits were made to every class.

## **Context**

There have been no significant changes in staffing or governance since the inspection.

## **Main findings**

You are moving the school forward rapidly with great commitment to pupils and their families. Your plans for development are well focused and detailed. Actions to bring about improvements and the dates by which you expect them to have happened are clear and well-structured which means all staff know what is expected and what they need to do. Staff and governors also know when and how these improvements will be monitored. You have tightly linked the actions identified to accelerating pupils' progress and raising their attainment through good quality teaching.

You have been explicit in working with all staff to set and agree high expectations of pupils. This collaborative approach, which recognises teachers' skills in making classrooms purposeful places for learning, is a strength in your work.

Your engagement of pupils, parents, staff and governors in the development and introduction of 'Crawford's Cogs' - the characteristics you expect to see in effective learners - is rapidly moving learning behaviour to good. During our visits to classrooms, children in every class were both enjoying and focusing on their learning. Most children could discuss how the new strategies for marking their work and sharing targets for their learning, support their progress. You are now making sure that approaches agreed are implemented with absolute consistency.

The staff team is responding positively to change and all staff are working hard to move achievement to securely good. You are receptive to support from the local authority, welcoming, and rapidly responding to, an external view of the school's performance to ensure that your planning is precise and your judgements are accurate.

Written feedback from parents following events organised to share information about how children are learning shows your partnership with them is improving.

Governors continue to visit regularly to fulfil their duty to monitor the school's work. They understand and support the changes you are making to improve pupils' learning and now know that your management of teacher's performance includes an understanding of how well the pupils they teach achieve.

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 local authority has provided you with good support through the advice of a performance adviser who has sharpened planning, and a challenge partner who has supported your monitoring processes. Professional development for staff focused on developing active learning has also been facilitated. The Diocese liaises with the local authority about the improvement of the school and provides you with further mentoring.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body, the Director of Children's Services for Suffolk and the Director of Education for the Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich.

Yours sincerely

Prue Rayner  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**