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16 January 2014

Mr Neil Ryan
Headteacher
Christ The King Catholic Primary School
Kings Approach
Bramley
Leeds
West Yorkshire
LS13 2DX

Dear Mr Ryan

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Christ The King Catholic Primary School, Leeds

Following my visit to your school on 15 January 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the findings. 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 October 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 further action to:

- Ensure that the information by which the school measures its' improvement is broken down into smaller steps so that governors can more effectively gauge the impact of the actions being taken
- Ensure the evaluation of what is happening in lessons is more timely and helps school leaders to identify next steps for individual teachers. This information needs to be collated and tracked by governors with clear targets for improvement established.

Evidence

During my visit, I held meetings with you and other senior leaders, members of the governing body and a representative of the local authority. I also met a Local Leader in Education (LLE) working with the school and a representative of the diocese to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. The school action plan was evaluated. Visits to all classrooms in the school were undertaken.

Main findings

You, your senior leaders and governors have responded positively to the areas for improvement from the previous inspection. You have built on a commitment to improvement evident before the last inspection.

School leaders have attended a 'getting to good' workshop and as a result the school action plan has been amended. The plan focuses on the areas for improvement from the recent inspection report, with a clear allocation of key staff and governors responsible for monitoring the progress being made by the school. This is a clear plan in the short term. However, there is lack of clarity about future time scales and explicit targets for improvement broken down into smaller steps. Without these specific details, senior leaders and governors will find it harder to accurately assess each action in terms of the impact it is having. Greater urgency needs to be given to reviewing the impact of your actions on pupils learning in lessons.

The school has carried out a number of actions since the last inspection, these include a work scrutiny of pupils' books resulting in feedback to teachers on areas for improvement. Staff training in engaging pupils, the place of talk in learning and a review of early years provision have taken place. The school has built on links with a successful partnership school and arranged visits for staff to share best practice.

The governing body have acted promptly since the previous inspection. They have reviewed the school action plan and a separate action plan relating specifically to governance is being developed. More regular meetings are programmed and individual governors are now allocated responsibility for specific areas of improvement. A review of governance is underway and a skills audit has been undertaken.

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

Effective support has been provided by external partners, including the local authority, the diocese and your links with other schools.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body, the Director of Children's Services for Leeds and as below.

Yours sincerely

Jonathan Brown

Her Majesty's Inspector

The letter should be copied to the following:

- Appropriate authority - Chair of the Governing Body/Interim Executive Board
- Local authority – including where the school is an academy
- Diocese – for voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools