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14 July 2014

Ms Jo Johnson  
Headteacher  
Worstead Church of England Primary School  
Honing Road  
Worstead  
North Walsham  
Norfolk  
NR28 9RQ

Dear Ms Johnson

### **Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Worstead Church of England Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 11 July 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the inspection 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 April 2014. 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.

### **Evidence**

During the inspection, meetings were held with you and your senior teacher, the Chair of the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. The school action plan was evaluated. You shared with me the results achieved by pupils in this year's national tests. An opportunity to walk the school with you enabled me to see pupils at work in lessons.

### **Context**

Since the previous inspection two teachers have left the school. They have been replaced by two unqualified teachers who have been appointed as newly qualified

teachers from September 2014. An experienced teacher has also been appointed to join the school in September 2014.

## **Main findings**

You are maintaining the drive and ambition noted at the time of the previous inspection to secure improvements to the school. You have taken prompt, decisive action to tackle weak teaching and are providing staff with the support and challenge they need to increase their effectiveness.

A detailed action plan is in place. It prioritises improving the overall quality of teaching and strengthening the leadership and management of the school in order to raise achievement. Plans include aspirational targets to measure the improvements made and clear timescales to check that they are being made at a suitable rate.

Results in national tests have improved this year. In Key Stage 1, all pupils in Year 1 passed the phonics test. All pupils in Year 2 attained the expected levels in reading, writing and mathematics. Fewer more-able pupils attained higher Level 3 in writing compared with reading and mathematics. In Key Stage 2, almost all pupils in Year 6 attained the expected levels in reading, writing and mathematics. A much higher percentage of pupils attained higher Level 5 compared with the previous year. These results represent a significant improvement but the headteacher acknowledges that based on their starting points, the progress of some pupils in both key stages needs accelerating further.

Governors have attended recent training and have re-constituted the Governing Body to enable it to make more of a contribution to raising achievement. An external review of governance led by the local authority is planned for later this term.

## **External support**

You are working with the local authority to help you achieve your aims of being judged to be at least good in your next inspection. You have joined the Norfolk Good and Great programme to gain additional training and support and to learn from other schools with good practice locally and beyond the region. The good links brokered with a National Lead in Education and a local Teaching School are providing you and your staff with high quality guidance, advice and support.

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

Yours sincerely

John Mitcheson  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**