

CfBT Inspection Services  
Suite 22  
West Lancs Investment Centre  
Maple View  
Skelmersdale  
WN8 9TG

**T** 0300 1231231  
Text Phone: 0161 6188524  
enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk  
[www.ofsted.gov.uk](http://www.ofsted.gov.uk)

**Direct T** 01695 566 857  
**Direct F** 01695 729320  
**Direct email:**  
jkinsman@cfbt.com



17 December 2014

Mrs Clair Tucker  
Headteacher  
Rossington St Michael's CofE Primary School  
Sheepbridge Lane  
Old Rossington  
Doncaster  
DN11 0EZ

Dear Mrs Tucker

**Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to Rossington St Michael's CofE Primary School**

Following my visit to your school on 16 December 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 September 2014. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005. At its previous section 5 inspection the school was also judged to require improvement.

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 teachers' marking is of the best quality for all subjects so that pupils are clear how they can get better and learn from their mistakes
- clearly define senior leaders roles and responsibilities so that levels of accountability are known and understood by all staff and governors
- make sure that teachers plan lessons that suit the full range of abilities in their class, especially those with special educational needs and those that are most-able.

## **Evidence**

During the inspection, I held meetings with you, senior and middle leaders and four members of the Governing Body including the Chair. I also met with the Senior Education Standards and Effectiveness officer from the local authority. We discussed actions that has been taken since the last Section 5 inspection in September 2014. The school improvement plan and other documents were evaluated.

## **Context**

Governors have appointed a new Chair and vice-chair, with the previous Chair remaining on the Governing Body. Two additional governors have been appointed. The post of deputy headteacher has been filled and she will take up her post on 1 January 2015.

## **Main findings**

The monitoring activities you undertake meant that the inspection findings were well known. The report recognised the improvements in the last two years, however you are under no illusion that more needs to be done and your calendar indicates when monitoring will happen. Appointing a deputy headteacher completes the senior leadership team. This gives the opportunity to share out responsibilities so that all take a clear lead in driving forward the quality of teaching and learning and thus the progress made by all pupils. Your post-Ofsted action plan identifies the key priorities from the Section 5 report and runs alongside your school development plan. You recognise that the document needs strengthening as at the moment it does not indicate who will evaluate whether the actions done are making a difference and if you are moving forward as expected.

Governance has been re-organised and strengthened so that individual governors can provide support and training for those governors who are less familiar with, for example, understanding data. The governors to whom I spoke understand the need to move forward at speed and to make improvements sustainable. Records of their meetings and visits to the school show a strong understanding of how to hold you and other leaders to account because of their first-hand involvement in school activities.

Phase and subject leaders are involved in monitoring their subject areas and providing feedback to teachers. There is still inconsistency in the quality and effectiveness of marking and the feedback given to pupils with weaker practice in books other than literacy. Ensuring that feedback in all books matches that of the best is a key focus. The 2014 results and your tracking of pupil progress across all year groups shows that there are improvements. However, ensuring that pupils with special education needs and those that are most-able are set work that matches their needs is important. Currently, not enough pupils reach the higher levels or make better than expected progress.

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

### **External support**

Local authority officers continue to check the progress being made regularly through a range of activities. The local authority officer attached to the school recognises the need to urgently establish a link with a local primary school so that leaders and staff can share ideas and practice regularly.

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

Yours sincerely

Marianne Young  
**Her Majesty's Inspector**