

## **Monitoring inspection of Kingsnorth Church of England Primary School**

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware the school had a Section 8 (short – 1 day) Ofsted monitoring visit on 9 October 2018. The visit was the first inspection since we were judged to be good in September 2012 and since our academy conversion in November 2015.

The outcome of the inspection was that the school had continued to develop and had maintained our good judgement over this period of time.

**This school continues to be good.**

We welcomed the opportunity to celebrate our children and our school. It was a pleasing process being able to validate our school and what we do well for our children and the community.

### **Some of the key comments from the inspection are:**

*The leadership team has maintained the good quality of education in the school since the last inspection. Leaders and governors work together to provide opportunities for pupils to experience “The best days of our lives”, as reflected in the school’s motto.*

*‘A strong culture of teamwork within the school and adults work in harmony together. This harmonious atmosphere and a strong sense of moral purpose have created an environment in the school in which all pupils are keen to learn.’*

*One parent summed up the views of many when they said, ‘The school is very welcoming and has a family feel.’ The school’s values of thankfulness, friendship, trust, compassion and endurance are visible in the attitudes and actions of staff and pupils.*

*You and your leadership team are ambitious for the school.*

*Improvements to the quality of teaching have resulted in increases in the attainment of pupils at the end of key stages 1 and 2.*

*Pupils' attitudes to school are impeccable. Within lessons and around the school, pupils are courteous, conscientious and very well behaved. Pupils talked about the importance of the school's rules and how these keep them safe and enable them to do their best.*

*Pupils' attendance at school is above the national average because they are eager to learn more and take part in the interesting lessons that are on offer to them.*

*The leadership team has ensured that all safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose. A strong culture of safeguarding permeates the work of the school. Staff receive appropriate training to ensure that they are vigilant to any risks posed to pupils.*

*Pupils know how to keep themselves safe and trust adults if they have a concern or worry.*

*The school's approach to teaching mathematics allows pupils to master the basic skills of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division so that they can apply a range of strategies to solve calculations.*

*Leaders have improved the quality of the teaching of writing. High importance is placed on pupils mastering the basic skills of phonics and handwriting. Pupils in Year 1 were keen to apply the new spelling rule that they had been taught and formed their letters clearly and consistently.*

*Pupils make good progress in writing as a result of the strong teaching they receive. There are a range of interesting opportunities for pupils to write across the curriculum both within English lessons and in other subjects.*

*Leaders have ensured that the curriculum provides pupils with a wide range of interesting and exciting learning opportunities. Recent changes to the way the timetable is organised allow for sustained periods of focus on one subject or topic.*

*The curriculum provides opportunities for pupils to understand challenging concepts and think deeply.*

*The curriculum is enriched by the trips and visits that pupils take part in. Pupils speak enthusiastically about the residential visit in Year 4 and the trip to France in Year 6. A wide range of extra-curricular activities are on offer to pupils including the school choir which takes part in performances outside of school.*

*These are all really positive and encouraging comments. It was great to be able to show that we know our school and that we have robust evaluation processes and as a whole staff have created a plan for this year which acknowledges the improvements we still want to make.*

Next steps for the school, as selected through the inspection are:

Leaders and those responsible for governance should ensure that:

- the use of additional funding for disadvantaged pupils is sharpened so that leaders have a clearer understanding of its impact on the progress of disadvantaged pupils
- they continue to develop how well the curriculum builds on pupils' skills and knowledge progressively in a wide range of subjects.

### **We are a great school!**

We all know this! It hasn't taken an Ofsted inspection to tell us this. We know, through on going reflection and evaluation, that we have a great school here in Kingsnorth.

To read the letter in full please visit the school website:

[www.kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk/about-us/ofsted](http://www.kingsnorth.kent.sch.uk/about-us/ofsted)

The DfE have recently confirmed this through the English Hub selection process and awarding us 1 of the 32 hubs (924 schools were invited to apply) across England. The English Hub is an acknowledgement of the impact and progress of our phonics teaching, our early reading strategies and the positive impact this is having on our children.

This is a great achievement for our school. As we have continued to show strong teaching in this area we have been selected as one of a very few schools nationally to share our knowledge and best practices to across Kent and the South-East of England.

I would like to acknowledge the hard work of our children, you as parents in supporting your children, our staff and leadership team and the school governors. Thanks must also go to the Aquila Trust for the ongoing support that is provided to us.

Yours Thankfully,

Mr I Witts  
Executive Headteacher