



St John and St Francis Church School

Westonzoyland Road
Bridgwater
Somerset
TA6 5BP

Headteacher Mrs Lisa Farley, BEd(Oxon) NPQH

October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the Ofsted inspection on 13th and 14th September 2017 we have been issued with the report which will be published on the Ofsted website in the coming days. You can access the report on the school website now (Key information – OFSTED and SIAMS).

As you will see we have received an overall effectiveness judgement of Requires Improvement. The progress the school has made since the last report, which is considerable, is reflected in this report.

‘The school has improved considerably since the previous inspection’.

Despite this the report has come at a good time for the school and has confirmed that the school is moving in the right direction in the improvements it has made. In all of the inspectors’ comments there was nothing we did not know about and were not already addressing in our plans. Unfortunately the report has to reflect where we are now not where we are planning to be.

All of the recommendations identified had already been recognised and are contained in our school development plan, which can be found on our website. As a result we are already making rapid progress on the school improvements identified by the inspectors.

‘Leaders have taken decisive action to improve teaching.’

We are particularly pleased that the lead inspector supported the aims behind the staffing restructures which have taken place over the last eighteen months and saw this as an important foundation for making further improvements in the school. In addition the Lead Inspector commented on how big a challenge it is to lead and manage such change and supported the moves made by the school.

‘Staff respond well to challenges from leaders because they are keen to develop their roles. Staff welcome the training and support they receive and as a result, staff morale is high.’

Although it came as no surprise to me, it was gratifying to note that the inspectors were impressed by the staff as teachers asked for feedback on their lessons and had a keen desire to know how they could improve their teaching. This positive attitude by all staff is apparently quite rare to see across a whole school staff. This view supports our findings that the quality of teaching and learning continues to improve at St John and St Francis Church School. This is reflected in the improvements of Early Years, Year 1 Phonic screening, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 results since our last inspection. Attainment is in line with the national average and progress is in line, if not better than national. The school has also met the government floor standards for the last three years.

‘Pupils are motivated to come to school because of the exciting activities on offer.’





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Throughout this report the clear focus of all our staff on the well-being and safeguarding of all our children was praised.

‘All adults at the school prioritise the welfare of pupils.’

The grading of **good** for Personal development, behaviour and safety is another particularly pleasing outcome from this inspection. This once again emphasizes the positive attitudes and qualities displayed by our pupils and they are to be congratulated on this. We are very proud of our pupils at St John and St Francis Church School and are pleased that the continued hard work carried out on the standards of behavior in school has been recognised.

The grading of **good** for Early Years provision is a clear improvement since the last inspection. The change in teaching staff and the investment in the learning environments is reflected in the judgement. We are really proud of our Early Years team and the continued hard work that has taken place over the last year.

‘Adults in the early years are committed to children’s welfare and the environment provides a safe and secure space in which children can learn and play.’

All staff are committed to achieving the consistency across teaching and assessment identified as needed by the report and are determined to build on the existing good practice recognised by the inspectors. Again this demonstrates the drive of teachers and leaders to improve all aspects of our school.

‘Pupils know what is expected of them because adults set clear expectations of attitudes to learning.’

There is a real commitment from myself, the Senior Leadership team, all staff, Governors and Bath and Wells Multi Academy Trust to use the recommendations of this report to further build on the achievements already made over the last eighteen months.

As Headteacher I am pleased with the report as it confirms we are heading in the right direction to improve teaching and learning in the school even further, and, to build on the good results already obtained by the pupils of St John and St Francis Church School.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Lisa Farley

Headteacher

