



The Church of England
in Essex and East London
Diocese of Chelmsford

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Mrs Louise Gurney
Debden CE Primary Academy
High Street
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10th November 2017

Dear Louise,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Diocese following Debden's recent SIAMS Inspection which judged the school to be a "Good" church school.

The Way Ahead Report (2001) stated that, *'Although there will be variations between one Church school and another, there will be certain core principles and values that should unite all Church schools within the Christian mission. These will be the gospel values of loving God and one's neighbour, as well as the practical outworking of these values in how pupils are taught to conduct themselves and relate to one another and to God's world'* and SIAMS inspections are a means by which we can ensure that our Church schools maintain these key qualities.

Therefore, I would like to congratulate you on the outcome and in particular the fact that your effectiveness as a leadership team is having such a significant impact on both the distinctiveness of the school and on the development of and outcomes for pupils. The determination of yourself and other leaders to shore up the school's character as a church school has clearly had considerable impact. It is good to read how this has led to rapid improvement, and how relationships, pupil attitudes and behaviour have all been strongly influenced in consequence. It was also very encouraging to read of the strong commitment to inclusion, in keeping with the school's Christian foundation, of the way the core values have impacted upon school life and pupil behaviour, and of how the school has utilised strong partnerships, with the Diocese in particular, to facilitate its ongoing development as a church school. The Diocesan Advisor, Mike Dean, has also noted the fact that the strong commitment of leaders to the school, its pupils and their education encapsulated within the report are notable and fully evident, and how the school has come a long way in a relatively short space of time.

Congratulations on this report. I really do appreciate the hard work that has taken place to ensure that a strong Christian ethos has growing discernible impact on the lives of all those who are a part of the school. I know that Mike is very much looking forward to continuing to work with you as you address the key areas to improve around worship, and the development of pupils' understanding of both the Anglican character of school and the broader dimension of diversity of multicultural practice across the Christian family. I am confident that this will continue to ensure that the school's Christian character becomes even more firmly embedded, and its impact upon its community continues to grow powerfully.

Yours sincerely

The Venerable Elwin Cockett
Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education

CC Chair of Governors
Incumbent



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