

Cornerstone Church of England (VA) Primary School

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CORNERSTONE
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Building our Community with Love

OFSTED REPORT MAY 2015

Dear parents.

We are delighted to be able to share with you the highly complementary report from our Ofsted inspection. We are proud that our achievements to date are recognised and celebrated, in particular the qualities and positive behaviours of the children and the hard working, professional approach of the staff. We also appreciate the numerous positive points in each section of the report. Thank you for all the supportive and kind comments we have received before, during and since the inspection.

Our school has been officially judged as Good overall, with aspects that are already, or are in the process of becoming, Outstanding. The inspection criteria is written in such a way, and indeed the Inspector himself stated, that it would be virtually impossible for a new school to be judged Outstanding in every aspect on its first inspection.

We would strongly urge you to read the report in its entirety to gain the full perspective of the judgement, which we support as an accurate evaluation of where the school currently is on its journey to being an Exceptional Learning Community.

Some of the positives highlighted in the Key Findings were:

- “This is a happy school where pupils achieve well in terms of their personal, as well as academic development”
- “The school’s very positive ethos reflects its Christian aims. Pupils are growing up as responsible caring young people.”
- “Pupils make good progress because they are well taught. They behave well and their attitudes towards learning are consistently positive”
- “Arrangements to ensure pupils are safe and well cared for are outstanding.”
- “The leadership of Early Years provision is outstanding. Children...are introduced to the joy of learning”
- “Ongoing improvements to teaching and learning...are underpinned by accurate self-evaluation and effective assessment”
- “The school is effectively and efficiently run. The headteacher leads by example. His vision and ambition for the growth of the school are shared by governors, staff and parents”

Some other positives from different sections of the report were:

- “The school is extremely popular with parents...They have a high level of confidence in the quality of teaching and the care on offer”
- “Expectations are high and pupils respond by being keen to learn”
- “Provision for spiritual, moral, social and cultural developments are good, making a strong contribution to pupils’ personal development”
- “Governors make a strong and effective team. They have successfully led the school during its first five terms”

- “The school is well led by the headteacher. He has created a leadership team whose drive and ambition for learning opportunities to meet the needs of all pupils, as well as being fun, are very successfully taking the school forward. Although this is currently a small school, leaders and managers ‘think big’”
- “The behaviour of the pupils is typically at least good. For much of the time in and around the school it is outstanding”
- “Pupils...are adamant that there is no bullying”
- “Teachers and learning support assistants make an effective contribution to pupils’ learning...expectations are high and work is well planned to ensure success”
- “Teachers mark pupils’ work systematically, acknowledging effort and giving pointers for improvement”
- “Analysis clearly indicates that progress is good overall...Progress is particularly good in reading and mathematics”
- “Overall, the most able pupils make good progress”
- “From the very enthusiastic way children rush into class in the morning and the extremely positive comments of parents and staff, it is obvious that children feel safe and have a love of learning”
- “Children learn to be considerate, share, take turns and resolve problems through negotiation”

Obviously although we are proud of the achievements of the whole school community we are yet to be judged Outstanding overall. The report also highlights the actions we need to take to ensure this in our next inspection. There are two points raised in “What does the school need to do to improve further?” As a school we would fully agree with these recommendations, and were pleased that they were already identified on the school’s Strategic Development Plan for next academic year.

Many thanks again for the support you have shown your child, the staff, the governors and the school. We hope you also feel proud of the achievements we have made together as a school community in less than two years.

We look forward to continuing to work with you and your children in a powerful and positive partnership in the coming terms and years as we continue our journey of growing an Exceptional Learning Community.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tim Clarke
Headteacher