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Ms A Wood
Headteacher
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Dear Ms Wood

Ofsted subject survey: identifying good practice in Religious Education (RE)

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation, and that of your staff, during my visit on 13 November 2007 to look at work in RE.

The visit provided valuable information which will contribute to our national evaluation and reporting. Published reports are likely to list the names of the contributing institutions, but individual institutions will not be identified in the main text without their consent.

The evidence used to inform the judgements made included: discussions with senior staff, subject leader, two class teachers and pupils; and scrutiny of pupils' work.

Features of good practice observed

- The high level of commitment shown by staff to ensure that all pupils benefit from RE.
- A wide range of tasks and activities is used to motivate and enthuse pupils to learn about some of the beliefs and practices of the world's principal religions. The provision enables pupils to develop a strong sense of respect for religious and cultural diversity.
- Discussion with pupils indicates that they enjoy learning in RE and the majority of parents who responded to the school survey endorse pupils' positive views.
- Very good use is made of resources, including artefacts and information and communication technology. The use of the 'labyrinth' to structure the pupils' learning makes a particularly significant contribution to their personal development.

- Senior leaders focus on raising standards in RE through curriculum innovation and their careful evaluation ensures continuous improvement.
- The subject leadership nurtures creativity and ably supports staff to provide effective teaching and learning in RE.

Areas for development

- Increasing visits to places of worship and the use of visiting speakers to enrich pupils' learning in RE.

I hope these observations are useful as you continue to develop RE in the school.

As I explained previously, a copy of this letter will be sent to your local authority and SACRE and will be published on Ofsted's website. It will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Dilip Kadodwala
Her Majesty's Inspector