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Mr J Jeffery
Headteacher
Greenfylde Church of England First School
Silver Street
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Dear Mr Jeffery

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 17 March 2008 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 you, the subject leader for RE, a class teacher, a governor and Year 1 pupils; and scrutiny of documentation and pupils' work.

Features of good practice observed

- A strong commitment shown by you and your staff and governors to securing high quality RE for all pupils.
- A good subject leader who is developing the subject systematically and supporting staff skilfully in extending pupils' experiences and learning in RE.
- The effective use of a wide range of appropriate activities and resources, including artefacts and information and communication technology, which capture pupils' interest and secure for them very good experiences for learning, particularly about Christianity.
- Discussion with pupils indicates that they enjoy learning in RE, are confident about expressing and sharing their ideas and experiences and about using subject specific language relating to their work on Christianity.

- The planning for strong links between RE and literacy to help promote effective learning in RE.
- Excellent links with the local church enrich pupils' learning. Pupils' understanding of Christianity is strengthened by their experiences of visiting the church and talking with members of the Christian community.
- A reflective culture which secures good evaluation of the school's provision for RE, correctly identifies areas for development and leads to appropriate action to ensure continuous improvement.

Areas for development

- Embedding relatively new assessment processes for RE across the school.
- Implementing the plans to extend the good practice used to help pupils learn about Christianity, to enrich their learning about other world faiths.

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, the local diocese and will be published on Ofsted's website. It will also be available to the team for your next institutional inspection.

Yours sincerely

Valerie Pearson
Her Majesty's Inspector