

'Keeping On Track'

Supporting development in church schools

Name of School

Bickerstaffe CE Primary.

Name of Inspector

Mike Graham.

Date

21 March 2018.

Improvements made since last inspection (in response to the 'focus for development')

1. Peace Garden in main playground and Calm Corner in Early Years outdoor space both developed in response to the focus for development from the last inspection, which was 'Develop outdoor areas for reflection and prayer'. Children say that these areas are well used, and there is plenty of other evidence to that effect.

(There are many other improvements that have been made as well as this specific response, since the leadership team has been and still is committed to continuous striving for improvement for the good of the children. These are partially covered in the next section. The clarity of the staff's aim, in which they are succeeding, to 'Live and breathe the Christian values' is outstanding.)

Agreed Current Strengths

- 1.** Very strong commitment to Christian values and distinctiveness, with excellent understanding and support from governors, parents and parish.
- 2.** Strong leadership team with clear and vibrant vision for future development and further strengthening of Christian distinctiveness.
- 3.** Excellent links with Holy Trinity Church, with the vicar playing a leading role. About to re-visit their Partnership Award initiative, the

objectives of which they have already achieved in most if not all instances.

4. Strong pupil voice including several committees/groups for ecology (Eco Council), worship (Worship Wonders Council), health and wellbeing (Health and Well-being Council) and school life/leadership (School Council).

5. Excellent extra-curricular work in singing, musical instrument work, running club, school magazine editorial team, all underpinned by and rejoicing in Christian values such as joy, fellowship, friendship and respect.

6. Vibrant worship and RE with exceptional teamwork and passionate leadership.

Agreed areas for improvement:

1. Continue to develop and embed the new Lancashire RE syllabus in response to the latest initiatives, including 'Understanding Christianity'

2. Encourage parents, where appropriate, to consider baptism for their children to enhance their spiritual lives and enable them to participate fully in school/church communion services, which will contribute to the diocese's Growth Agenda.

3. Continue the sensitive development of spontaneous prayer with the children (and adults) as appropriate.

4. Broaden the teaching about the Holy Spirit, (possibly linking this with spontaneous prayer) so as to deepen the children's understanding of the Trinity.

5. Continue to develop the role of the 'Worship Wonders' group as leaders in demonstrating Christian love in the school community and beyond, as well as playing a key part in planning, leading and evaluating worship.

Signed Headteacher

Maggie Teachen

Signed Inspector

Mike Graham