

Phil Randall
Headteacher
St Peter's Church of England Aided School
Quarry Lane
Exeter
EX2 5AP

07/03/18

Dear Mr Randall

I am writing to thank you, your staff and your pupils for being part of the pilot process for the new SIAMS inspection schedule. It has been a very useful process for us and has helped us develop our thinking as we seek to make the SIAMS inspection process a more effective one.

I hope that the experience was helpful to your school community and will be beneficial to you as you develop St Peter's school as a church school. I would like to congratulate you on the very positive outcome of the pilot inspection.

It was good to read that the pilot inspector considered that the Christian vision is brought to life through the 'character compass' and permeates all areas of school life, so pupils are developing as confident, aspirational and well-rounded citizens. To read about the inspirational leadership of the headteacher, lay chaplain and governing body that has given direction and impetus to the school. Also, that collective worship has a very significant impact upon pupils, making them think, reflect and then wish to act in the service of all.

It was particularly pleasing to know that academic outcomes have continued to improve over the past three years. Pupils attain more highly than pupils nationally. From their starting points, they make very good progress by the time they leave in Year 11. Last year, all pupils who left went into further education, employment or training. The support and help given to disadvantaged pupils is shown by the fact that they attained better than pupils nationally in English and Mathematics at GCSE. The school, is however not complacent and constantly seeks improvement.

The pilot inspector found that the pupils and school place a high tariff on equality and tolerance. The pupils report that there is very little bullying of any kind and all are aware of its potential for harm. Any which occurs is dealt with quickly and effectively. Pupils say they can talk to any member of staff, not just teachers, and they will receive help. St. Peter's is a place where all members of the school community, whatever their background, disability, ethnicity, gender, identity, nationality, religion or sexual orientation are treated with dignity and respect as people created in the image of God. Tolerance for others is the by-word of the pupils and they are adamant that no-one is treated differently or forced to say anything they do not wish to. 'You are allowed to be yourself'. The recent recruitment of Dignity Ambassadors from pupils and the involvement with the Stonewall charity are indications that the school takes this issue very seriously.

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T: 020 7898 1000 Charity No: 313070

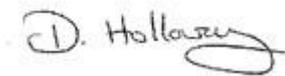
The pilot inspector considered that St Peter's school would be graded as an **Excellent** church school under the new schedule with collective worship also being **Excellent** and religious education being **Good**.

The pilot inspector suggested that the following would be areas to develop and I hope these will be helpful to the school in the future.

- Ensure that in quiet time there is sufficient space and time allocated for pupils to reflect spiritually.
- Develop more opportunities for sharing good practice and moderation within the religious education department.
- Monitor the development of the mental-health and wellbeing space and the work of the Dignity Ambassadors.

Once again may I thank you for being part of this process, you have made a significant contribution to the development of church school inspection.

Best wishes for the future

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "D. Holloway". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'D' and a long, sweeping underline.

Derek Holloway
School Character and SIAMS Development Manager
The Church of England Education Office
Church House, Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3AZ