

# **'Keeping On Track'**

Supporting development in church schools

## **Name of School**

**Farnworth VC CofE Primary.**

## **Name of Inspector**

**Mike Graham.**

## **Date**

**18 September 2018.**

## **Improvements made since last inspection (in response to the 'areas to improve')**

- 1.** Significant increase in the involvement of the (40 strong!) Ethos group in planning/evaluating and leading of worship. This has already led to greatly improved pupil involvement in worship and a consequent deepening of their spiritual awareness and understanding of key elements.
- 2.** A range of greetings and responses in worship has been introduced, so that the children are now familiar with this aspect of the Anglican tradition. There is a desire to increase their variety and 'child-friendliness' so as to keep them relevant and fresh. (eg "We are God's children..." "...and He is with us")

## **Agreed Current Strengths**

- 1.** Very strong commitment to Christian values, with a positive focus on the 'Fruit of the Spirit', and to Christian distinctiveness. This commitment has excellent understanding and support from governors, parents, the local church community and, significantly, the children's Ethos Group.
- 2.** Strong leadership from head and governors, amongst whom are many church members, with clear and vibrant vision for future development and further strengthening of Christian distinctiveness. (Including the Church Partnership Award stage 3?) This continues unabated, in spite of the re-organisation of the local parish and the current interregnum. The lay reader is steadfast and extremely supportive, fulfilling several roles and 'standing in the gap'.
- 3.** Excellent links with St Luke's Church, with staff and lay members giving great support.
- 4.** An exemplary passion for excellence for each child inspired by the headteacher leads to growth and spiritual health for every child, as they strive to 'grow' as Jesus grew, "and became strong, filled with wisdom, and God's grace was on him."
- 5.** All of which, including excellent extra-curricular clubs/trips, is underpinned by and rejoicing in Christian Values/Fruits of the Spirit such as love, joy, kindness and self-control

**6.** Vibrant worship and RE with exceptional teamwork and passionate leadership resulting in palpable enjoyment of learning

### **Agreed areas for improvement:**

- 1.** Continue to develop and embed the mix of LA and Diocesan RE syllabuses, to include appropriate elements of 'Understanding Christianity'
- 2.** Undertake sensitive development of spontaneous prayer with the children (and adults) as appropriate, with the Ethos team taking a lead.
- 3.** Continue to develop the role of the 'Ethos Group' 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. (And in writing a new School Prayer?)
- 4.** Develop the outdoor reflective area(s)\* by giving pointers, written and spoken, to encourage prayer with reflection linked with worship/RE teaching and, when appropriate, world events worthy of prayer. (\*Possibly add part of the 'Forest' area as an extra reflective space)
- 5.** Investigate with diocesan support the options available to build links with other faiths/leaders and global links with other Christian communities and/or schools, so as to build more understanding of the different styles of Christian worship.
- 6.** Re-introduce 'Koinonia' as the Governors' shared value and consider the option of temporarily co-opting an extra Christian parent/church governor for the rest of the interregnum.

*Signed Headteacher*

*Jackie Stillings*

*Signed Inspector*

*Mike Graham.*