

5.4.19

Dear Parents,

As we reach the end of term and the beginning of the Easter season, I would like, on behalf of our Trust, to say a huge thank you for all your support over the last 12 months. During this time we have had four external inspections. There have been two Ofsted inspections, one at St Wilfrid's CE and the other at West Didsbury CE and two church school inspections (SIAMS - Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) and we have been delighted with all of them.

We have received two very strong 'good' judgements from Ofsted showing the progress of both schools inspected.

West Didsbury CE was purely an idea five years ago and in that time we have created a new school and made it very much part of the West Didsbury community. It now has classes from Reception to Year 3 and provides primary education to well over 220 wonderful children. They are supported and taught by supportive parents and talented staff, which is clearly evident in the Ofsted report.

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/2783897>

St Wilfrid's CE has had an equally impressive journey from a very poor Ofsted report in 2015 to the official Ofsted grading of 'good' within the extremely positive report this term. The report highlights the great behaviour of your children and the very pleasing progress they are making. It also clearly points out the strong leadership and skills of the entire staff team to have this impact on the development of every child at St Wilfrid's CE.

<https://files.api.ofsted.gov.uk/v1/file/50067657>

We have also had two excellent SIAMS reports for Didsbury CE and West Didsbury CE which focus very much on the ethos of the school and our ability to live out our vision of **Belonging, Believing and Becoming**. They also focus on the quality of the RE and worship in school and the competency of the leadership and management. Both schools received the highest possible judgement of 'excellent' and in a similar fashion to Ofsted, SIAMS inspectors spoke at length with parents to gauge the parental perceptions of the school's impact on the children and their well-being and development.

<https://www.didsbury-pri.manchester.sch.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=2408&type=pdf>

<https://www.westdidsburyceprimary.co.uk/site/data/files/2015AD7A9D2E3960F67216E3F1D2438E.pdf>

We are delighted to have such positive external validation of all we do and have already put into place action plans to address all the areas for improvement highlighted in the four

inspections. Many of these areas will be shared with you from your school within forthcoming school communication because we always strive to improve our schools and rely on our strong partnership with you to do this.

As a Trust we are delighted to be officially judged to be providing high quality education within a supportive, caring Christian ethos to over 800 children in South Manchester.

Such an impressive record has not gone unnoticed and Manchester Diocese have asked us to consider supporting another local school, St Elisabeth's CE in Reddish, Stockport which recently has had a very poor Ofsted judgement and needs to improve the impact it has on the progress and development of the children who attend. Currently our Trustees are involved in a detailed due diligence process to consider the risks and benefits of St Elisabeth's CE becoming part of our Trust.

I will keep you all informed of any developments regarding this possibility over the next term, once our due diligence deliberations are concluded. Obviously, I will share this decision and the reasons for it with you, as soon as I am able.

In the meantime, I wish you all the best for an enjoyable and restful Easter break and we look forward to the summer term and preparing all our children for the next stage in their school journey.

Yours sincerely

Matt Whitehead

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