

**The Diocese of Chelmsford**



**SCHOOL VISIT NOTE**

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| **School Name:** | **MATCHING GREEN CE PRIMARY SCHOOL** | **Date of Visit:** | **6.10.16.** |
| **Adviser’s Name:** | **MIKE DEAN** |
| **Working with:** | Headteacher (HT) | AMY WAREHAM |
| Senior Leader (SL) |  |
| RE Leader (RL) |  |
| Incumbent (I) |  |
| Chair of Governors (CoG) |  |
| Other *(please specify)* |  |
| **Focus of Visit:** | PROGRESS IN DEVELOPING CHRISTIAN DISTINCTIVENESS |
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| **Summary of Visit** |
| **Overview of progress and actions since previous visit:*** Governors have confirmed MD to continue to be part of ongoing IB meeting internally at school.
* AW has confirmed she will be on maternity leave from January 2017. School will require leadership during her absence.
* Staff have begun to review how best to deliver the Essex RE syllabus (AW attending “Understanding Christianity” training).
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| **Summary of actions taken during visit:*** The difference between systematic and thematic units was explored along with the implications for how these are allocated across year groups.
* Possibility of adapting “Target Tracker” for use in RE assessment was explored.
* Progress in achieving actions around distinctiveness highlighted in the SDP was analysed.
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| **Key findings:*** Importance of an enquiry-based approach and of careful definition of learning objectives in the teaching of RE was revisited.
* It would be useful for AW to visit a school that is making use of “Target Tracker” to assess RE, to facilitate development at Matching.
* Ensure pupils fully understand the purpose of prayer and reflection spaces so that they are equipped to use these once they are set up.
* Staff are leading more collective worship but the Christian context of these needs to be woven throughout rather than an “add-on”, eg by tagging a prayer at the end.
* Christian values are an increasingly visible thread running through ethos and collective worship; these need to be explicit in public documents such as the prospectus and website. The ethos committee are scheduled to explore these further.
* A review of Christian distinctiveness is scheduled, to be undertaken by leaders from a partner church school in the LDG.
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| **Key recommendations/Agreed Actions:*** MD to focus INSET on Christian distinctiveness and implications for leading collective worship.
* AW to ensure all staff clear as to which units from Essex syllabus they are to teach, and to ensure this is done through an enquiry-based approach.
 | *Undertaken by whom including date** *By 7.11.16.*
* *By October half term.*
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| **Date and focus for next visit(s):** |
| **Date: 7.11.16.** | **Focus: IB meeting followed by staff INSET on Christian distinctiveness and collective worship.** |
| **PLEASE GIVE A COPY OF THIS VISIT NOTE TO INCUMBENT/CHAIR OF GOVERNORS** |