



“...Let us remember that, as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school.”

## ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

27<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parents Carers,

### **Re: Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)**

As a Church of England school, in addition to monitoring by OfSTED, we are also inspected under a system called the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS). The SIAMS inspection takes place usually on a five yearly cycle but it can be earlier depending on circumstances. This is a national system which is organised for our school in consultation with the Diocese of Rochester. The SIAMS inspection is part of our ongoing process of school development and improvement. Our SIAMS inspection will take place on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2019.

From September 2018, there has been a new SIAMS schedule in place which has 'raised the bar' in terms of the requirements for all Church of England schools. The most significant changes in the new schedule are:

- moving from making a judgement about the school based around four key questions to one key question assessed under seven strands. These strands include the school's Christian vision, collective worship and religious education. The key question is now, '**How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish**';
- moving from four possible judgements (Outstanding, Good, Requires Improvement, Inadequate) to three – **Excellent, Good and Requires Improvement**. (Please note that there are certain specified circumstances when a judgement of '**Ineffective as a Church school**' can be awarded as an overall judgement);
- understanding that there will be less 'excellent' schools under this schedule than there were 'outstanding' judgements previously, as the requirements for excellence are considerably heightened. However, there are ample opportunities within a report to reflect the strengths of schools and the many aspects which should be celebrated by the whole community.

The report will be written and all parents/carers will be given access to a copy. It will also be published on our school website and on the websites of the Diocese of Rochester and the Church of England Education Office.

If you have any questions regarding this, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours faithfully

**Ben Hulme**  
**Headteacher**