



*Metropolitan Borough of Rotherham*

Town Hall,  
Moorgate Street, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. S60 2TH  
Telephone 01709 822722/1

Hannah Etheridge, Democratic Services Officer (01709 822055) hannah.etheridge@rotherham.gov.uk

Mrs. A. Benton  
Headteacher,  
Thornhill Primary School,  
Clough Bank,  
ROTHERHAM,  
South Yorkshire,  
S61 1TD

10<sup>th</sup> June, 2014

Dear Mrs Benton,

**Rotherham Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education – confirmation of Determination**

Thank you for hosting the visit of Rotherham SACRE to your school on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2014.

In particular, we were very impressed by the long-term planning and the review process for the Collective Worship programme and the enthusiasm with which this is delivered.

We would like to congratulate you on the quality of the experience offered to the children in assembly and the behaviour and participation of the children.

It was obvious to us that the children felt comfortable in your assembly, and although you thought they were reticent in answering your questions, we were pleased with their answers.

The Rotherham SACRE are happy to accept your case for multi-faith collective worship and will be granting you a Determination from the requirement that Collective worship be 'mainly, broadly Christian'.

On this occasion we recognise that the assembly we observed was SMSC rich with plenty of opportunities to think and reflect so that formal prayer etc was not needed.

However, the Determination does not take away the requirement for collective worship that should have a 'spiritual' character so that at least some of the assemblies should offer children the opportunity to pray, reflect or be silent for a little while according to their choice.

If still relevant to your School, you will need to apply again for a determination in 2017.

Yours sincerely,

*Nicki Goodwin*

Nicki Goodwin  
Chair of the Rotherham SACRE

COPY