



Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust

MAT HQ
Skelmanthorpe Nursery Building
Elm Street
Skelmanthorpe
HD8 9DZ

8 September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am pleased to share the results of the recent Ofsted inspection at Helme C of E Academy, one of our highly valued academies. The inspection was carried out on 14th and 15th July 2026, and we are extremely proud of the outcomes highlighted in the final report.

It is wonderful to see Helme C of E Academy receive recognition through the following inspection judgements:

- **Strong Standard** - Early Years
- **Strong Standard** - Attendance and behaviour
- **Expected Standard** - Curriculum and teaching
- **Expected Standard** - Inclusion
- **Expected Standard** - Personal development and wellbeing
- **Expected Standard** - Leadership and governance
- **Expected Standard** - Achievement

Ofsted now uses the term “expected” to describe the standard it intends schools to aim for. It is important to understand that “expected” represents a high benchmark, not a minimum standard. It reflects strong, well-embedded practice across all areas of school life, including leadership, curriculum, teaching, attendance and behaviour, inclusion and safeguarding.

Meeting this level consistently requires:

- Secure and ambitious learning across all subjects
- Clear impact over time
- Strong systems that are well embedded and consistently applied

A strong judgement recognises that the school is not only doing the right things, but doing them very well, consistently and with clear impact. It reflects a school that knows its strengths, is continually self-evaluating and is committed to continuing to develop for the benefit of its pupils. A strong Ofsted judgement reflects a school where:

- High expectations are the norm
- Systems are fully embedded and trusted
- Staff work with confidence and clarity
- Pupils benefit from consistency, and high-quality education

Here are just a few of the wonderful comments within the inspection report:

- *Helme Church of England Academy is a happy, safe and welcoming school. Pupils feel a sense of belonging and they are proud of their school.*

- *The school's Christian character is woven within all aspects of school life. It supports pupils to understand the importance of diversity and respect.*
- *Pupils behave impeccably. They have warm, friendly relationships with one another and with staff. Bullying happens very rarely.*
- *Pupils enjoy learning at the school. They have high aspirations that are underpinned by the school's values of 'dream, believe, achieve'.*
- *Many pupils have special educational needs and/or disabilities. They appreciate the way in which staff support them to access all aspects of day-to-day life in school and to thrive.*
- *Pupils benefit from a range of enrichment opportunities at the school. Similarly, there are a number of leadership opportunities for pupils at the school. Pupils speak proudly of the way in which they are able to lead aspects of the school's provision through these roles.*

This success has been made possible through the hard work, determination, and commitment of Ms. Spooner, the senior leadership team, staff, governors, and especially the pupils. We are delighted by what they have achieved and have no doubt that you will be equally proud of their accomplishments.

The full Ofsted report is attached for you to read. We hope you will take a moment to look through it and join us in celebrating this achievement.

Yours sincerely

Elaine C. Watson

Elaine Watson
CEO/Executive Headteacher
Learning Accord Multi Academy Trust