



Enjoying Learning Together

To whom it may concern,

My name is Stuart McClelland and I am the Head Teacher at St Michaels on the Mount Primary School in Bristol.

The reason for my writing is to endorse the great work that Gyroscopic do through their workshop pieces in conjuncture with Saint Stephen's Church.

As a local school, in the parish of St Stephen's, we are extremely keen to build a long lasting partnership to support all our pupils. We are in the heart of the city and our school population is very rich and diverse with children coming from a range of cultural, religious and social backgrounds.

We are also a school which was deemed as Requires Improvement in our last Ofsted inspection, which in turn has put extra pressure on specific areas, namely pupils' outcomes at the end of their primary school experience. This drive on improving standards has meant that we find it difficult, at times, to enrich the curriculum with music, art and dance, particularly with regard to the teaching of Religious Education.

It is important that we are able to offer opportunities for all our children to learn in an environment of understanding and inclusivity. The work that Gyroscopic does engages our young people where language can often be a barrier.

They are also able to support us in creating links and breaking down barriers with our parents from the different communities that we serve, with regard to the church.

The workshops will help develop our Religious Education curriculum across year groups, especially when using the church as a base. For instance in Year 1 our pupils explore 'Why are some places special?' In Year 2 they explore 'Where do we belong?' which looks at feelings and experiences. Throughout the curriculum there are opportunities to explore themes through a range of experiences and Gyroscopic can help us do this.

Please contact me if you have any further questions or would like to meet to discuss further.

Yours sincerely
Stuart McClelland

Head Teacher