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15 February 2016

Dr James Waddell

Sent by email to: waddelljb@christiananddoctrine.com

Our ref: 347746

Dear Dr Waddell

I refer to your email of 7 February 2016, received in the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector, Sir Michael Wilshaw, on 8 February 2016. I hope you will appreciate that Sir Michael receives a large amount of correspondence and is unable to reply to each one personally. It is for this reason that I have been asked to respond on his behalf.

Thank you for writing to Sir Michael. The Government's recent call for evidence is proposing the introduction of a system for registering out-of-school settings, including the facility to inspect where there are reasons for concern, but not the routine inspection of all settings. Ofsted supports this approach. The point that Sir Michael was seeking to make when questioned on LBC Radio recently, is that any registration and inspection system should be applied consistently and in a proportionate way, across all relevant out-of-school settings.

The Chief Inspector's concern, which is based on robust evidence from inspecting unregistered schools, is that some provision, which is currently not subject to any regulation, is failing to ensure the health, safety and well-being of children and young people.

Ofsted will act according to whatever criteria are set down by Parliament once any legislation that follows this consultation exercise is enacted. Please note that Ofsted is not seeking to inspect denominational religious education.

Yours sincerely

Private Secretary to Her Majesty's Chief Inspector