

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### **Abbey Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School**

Aston Road  
Nuneaton  
Warwickshire  
CV11 5EL

#### **Diocese of Coventry**

LEA: Warwickshire

SIAS inspection: 13-14 December 2005

Previous S23 inspection: September 1999

URN: 125654

Headteacher: (Acting) Mrs. Gwyn Evans

SIAS Inspector NS 148: Shirley Dudfield

#### **Context**

Abbey Church of England school is situated close to Nuneaton town centre in Abbey Green. The school has been on its present site for 102 years. There is a mixture of private residential, council and church housing. There are 176 children on roll. Almost a quarter of the pupils have special educational needs.

#### **Summary Judgement**

Abbey Infant School and Nursery has a distinct Christian character which impacts positively on learners. Collective worship is good and the school community benefits from quality acts of worship. Behaviour is good and children respond well. Staff and children are kind to each other. The school is effectively led. Management is becoming more established under the current leadership.

#### **Established Strengths**

The school has a clear Christian ethos. There are good links with the community and with local churches. Acts of worship are delivered with sensitivity and contribute to the children's spiritual development. Relationships in the school are good. Behaviour is good. Children are open and honest.

#### **Focus for development**

The school must continue to safeguard its strong Christian ethos and its commitment to provide children with opportunities to grow spiritually. The school must ensure that proper planning is in place for Collective Worship and that effective recording and assessment inform future planning. The school must ensure that effective leadership continues when the new Head and Deputy Head are in post.

**How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?**

In the area of meeting the needs of all learners through its distinctive character, Abbey was judged to be satisfactory.

Abbey is clear about its Christian character and ethos and places a high value on the positive effect this has on learners. Staff are committed to the well-being of the children and show care and concern for pupils. High expectations have a positive impact on pupil behaviour. Pupils are aware of school rules and understand the system of sanctions and rewards.

Spiritual and moral aspects of children's learning are considered important and are valued equally with academic learning goals. PHSE and citizenship are based on Christian values. Links with the community are good. Abbey Infant School is valued as an important and active member of the local community.

**What is the impact of Collective Worship on the school community?**

In the area of collective worship impacting the school community, Abbey was judged to be good.

Worship has a positive impact on the school community.

Collective worship is held at the beginning of the school day and provides opportunity for children to come together, pray and reflect. A focus for worship is provided at each act of worship.

Children are aware of the importance of listening to others and the need to be kind to one another.

Worship in the foundation stage is very good and is age appropriate.

Visitors including the local clergy are involved in leading worship.

Good use is made of diocesan R.E. resources and the school has its own easily accessible resources including books and artefacts.

Planning and assessment must be developed in order to maintain quality acts of worship.

**How effective is the Religious Education in the school?**

The school follows the Warwickshire Agreed Syllabus. Abbey is a Voluntary Controlled Anglican school and R.E was inspected under OFSTED.

**How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a church school?**

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of Abbey as a church school was judged to be satisfactory. Abbey Infants is clearly led as a church school. Leadership is effective, although both Head and Deputy Head are currently appointed in an acting capacity. The uncertainty that these temporary arrangements engender is a matter of concern and parents commented on this issue.

Continuity of purpose and organisation will need to be carefully guarded if the school is to avoid further upheaval and disruption. Several new governors have recently been appointed and will need support as they develop their management role. Relationships between staff are good. Support staff at Abbey are clearly supporting children's learning and behaviour. The Christian ethos and foundation of the school give a strong basis on which to build success.

SIAS Dec 2005 Abbey Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School  
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