

**All Saints Church of England Voluntary Controlled First School**

Church Lane  
Standon  
Staffordshire  
ST21 6RN

**Diocese of Lichfield**

Staffordshire LEA

SIAS inspection: 21 November 2005

Previous S23 inspection: 26 March 2000

URN:124274

Headteacher: Mrs. Joyce Johnson

SIAS Inspector NS: Mrs. Elaine Johns

**Context of the school**

The school has 39 pupils on roll and also accommodates a separately funded pre-school unit which takes children from two and a half to four years of age. Learners come from the village and from the rural areas around Standon.

**Summary Judgement**

All Saints CE School is a good church school and is effective in providing for the needs of all its learners. Relationships are exemplary, learners respond well to challenge and the distinctive Christian ethos is clearly demonstrated. The learners, staff and governors are active at the heart of a local community, playing a significant part in its everyday life.

**Established strengths**

- Relationships with the Vicar and members of All Saints' Church are very good; the school's work within the whole community is outstanding in its scope, sincerity and attention to detail.
- The headteacher values the opinions of all stakeholders, gathering views and evaluating them in order that action can be taken: this demonstrates a special concern that All Saints School is effective, both as an education provider and as a church school with a 'living' Mission Statement.
- The children and staff work well together, this being particularly evident when special projects are underway such as 'Stone in Bloom' or 'Bluebell Day'.
- The responses of learners are open, honest and made with confidence.
- Work in Religious Education impacts well on the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of the pupils, the special contact developed with the brothers from the Solomon Islands being one example.

**Focus for development**

- Broaden the range of resources used during worship, both for the focal point in the hall and to support the main themes identified in the Collective Worship plans.
- Further develop the planning for Collective Worship so that all involved in leading worship have sufficient information to develop their message well and so that the content of each worship time contributes in a distinct yet complimentary way to the overall theme.

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

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, meets the needs of all learners well. Learners are valued and talk proudly of their achievements, collectively and as individuals. Special attention is given to including all learners on occasions such as the Easter service in church; the caring and listening approach to the learners by adults impacts on their confidence and sense of belonging.

The school grounds offer particular focus for spiritual development and the learners talk enthusiastically about their part in developing the pond area and the opportunities they have to enjoy being there.

Christian values of respect for one another and working co-operatively are evident across and between learners and adults in school, for example to achieve collaborative works of art. Library books which celebrate cultural diversity are enjoyed and talked about by learners. At break-times the learners are encouraged to play co-operatively through the range of equipment available and there is space for quiet, noisy or energetic pastimes. Their spiritual moral social and cultural development is good.

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

The overall impact of collective worship on the school community is good.

Collective worship takes many forms and occurs in different settings at All Saints. Of particular note are the special services in All Saints Church at significant points in the year and the occasions afforded the learners to express themselves in response to stimuli received in a small class group or when together in the hall. Learners speak most positively about their worship times together and their answers to a recent questionnaire indicate that bible stories, singing, acting and prayers contribute to this view.

The Vicar of All Saints Church supports the collective worship themes in his weekly visits to school and all teaching staff lead worship times regularly. The themes for worship follow Diocesan guidance and are planned appropriately. Their impact is reduced because the person leading worship does not always have sufficient information to develop their message in a distinct way yet also in a manner which compliments the message of other colleagues. A suitable range of artefacts and resources is available for use in collective worship; while carefully selected, this is limited at present.

Photographs and documents show that distinct aspects of Anglican faith and practice are explored, both in school and in the Church. Learners speak enthusiastically and knowledgeably about their part in a 'service of baptism' or a 'wedding'; they also know, for example, about the seasons in the church's year.

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

The leadership and management of the school as a church school is good.

This is apparent in the school ethos, the information within displays of work and the overwhelmingly positive views of parents on collective worship. The headteacher and foundation governors share a common view on the way in which All Saints demonstrates its distinctive Christian vision – this has been in consultation with other governors and staff.

An outstanding feature is the unified approach to the school's role in the community, both within the church family and more generally. The headteacher leads by example, ensuring the older citizens are visited by learners, the church community is invited to share in special occasions in school or at church and opportunities to be a part of a joint event, such as at Lichfield Cathedral, are not missed. In all of this there is very good support from staff, governors, parents and friends of the school.

The headteacher listens to the views of others and evaluates the school's work carefully. In this way the school is well placed to develop further its Christian foundation.