

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Andrews' Endowed Voluntary Aided Church of England Primary School,
92 London Road,
Holybourne,
Alton,
Hampshire
GU34 4EL

Diocese: Winchester

LEA: Hampshire

Dates of inspection: 13 – 14 June 2006

Date of last inspection: February 2004

School's Unique reference number: 116360

Name of Headteacher: Mr Stuart Adlam

Inspector's name: Ann Brooks, Jean Thomson

Preface

The inspection was carried out under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 to report to the Governors on the distinctiveness of Church of England schools. The inspection was carried out under contract to the governing body and was undertaken following the Section 5 Inspection 3-4 May 2006.

School Context

Andrews' Endowed C of E Primary School is housed in a building of historic interest and the school was established around 1719. There have been further extensions to the school over the years and there are now plans to incorporate the adjoining school house. The grounds are attractive, offering numerous opportunities for outside activities.

It is average in size for a VA C of E school. The home circumstances of pupils from the catchment area are above average, but the majority of pupils are drawn from outside the catchment area and from wards not necessarily as prosperous. The vast majority of pupils are white – British. There are below average levels of pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities. There are currently 194 pupils on roll and attainment on entry is above national average. There are 10 full time teachers including the Headteacher. Teachers are supported by 10 Teaching Assistants.

Previous Inspection Details

Progress since the last inspection

Date: February 2004

Established Strengths:

- The school is particularly successful in promoting pupils' personal development.
- The Headteacher, staff and Governors are effective in translating the school aims into consistent good practice.
- Relationships within the school are good.
- Pupils' achievements are valued and celebrated.
- There is a positive and close relationship between the school and the parish priest.

Focus for Development:

- The provision of Religious Education (RE) should be addressed and in particular:
 1. Written statements in RE
 2. Children to record work in books or folders
 3. Staff to attend Continuing Professional Development (CPD) on Assessment and Recording in RE
 4. To improve the provision for resources, as outlined in the school development plan.

- The links with the local church community could be strengthened. The school has already identified this as an area for development.
- The delivery of acts of collective worship should ensure that wherever possible the needs of all pupils are taken into account.

Progress since the last inspection

- There has been some progress in the written standards of RE with some examples of outstanding work particularly by the end of Key Stage 2.
- Books to record RE work are used in all classes.
- Staff members have received appropriate CPD including support from the Diocese.
- Resources for RE are good and are supplemented by artefacts from resource centres. Regular visits to places of worship are included in the scheme of work.
- Links with the local church community are now a strength of the school.
- There has been good progress in the delivery of acts of collective worship, for example a story was used that was of interest on different levels from Year R to Year 6. ICT was used to make it visually attractive to younger children and the less able. Careful use of questioning drew out the deeper meaning of the text for older and more able pupils.

Summary Judgement

Andrews' Endowed C of E Primary School is a good church school.

Under the Headteacher's leadership there is a very clear vision for future improvement. This vision is shared by all stakeholders in the school including the supportive Governing Body. Under the strong leadership of the Headteacher significant changes have been made to the school's Christian ethos. There is an outstanding atmosphere of mutual respect throughout the whole school community. Views of parents and pupils are sought, valued and acted upon.

The school has a clear and strong commitment to Christian aims. There is now a very strong link with the local church community. The vicar is actively involved in collective worship, classroom activities and visits to the church. Very good procedures for self-evaluation identify plans to further improve RE. This will raise standards in the learning and teaching of this subject.

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

Strengths:

- The school has a warm, caring and respectful atmosphere, which permeates the whole school. Pupils feel valued and safe both in and out of classrooms.
- The Christian ethos is outstanding and is clearly reflected by all members of the school community.
- Pupils are polite and considerate and visitors to the school are treated courteously.
- Pupils are given opportunity for reflection and demonstrate depth to their thinking on important Christian values.
- Pupils adopt healthy lifestyles and the school contributes well to this.
- Pupils demonstrate enjoyment of learning and all aspects of school life.
- High quality displays of pupils' work reflect the link of RE with other subjects.

Areas for Development:

- The school ethos is clearly displayed in the entrance lobby. An obvious Christian symbol would define even more clearly the school's church status.

Overall Grade : 1

How effective is the worshipping experience provided by the school?

Strengths:

- Collective worship plays a central role in school life. It is attended and valued by pupils, all staff and frequently by parents.
- Members of the Governing Body regularly participate in acts of worship and are involved in monitoring quality of provision.
- Pupils are actively and enthusiastically involved in collective worship and year groups frequently lead the services.
- The incumbent leads an act of worship once a week and conducts special services of celebration in the church. Parents and Governors are invited.
- Very good use is made of music, prayer and times for reflection.
- The worship tables in each classroom provide opportunities for quiet reflection; pupils contribute their personal prayers and thoughts.
- The atmosphere created for pupils is excellent.
- Worship is planned thematically around Christian values.
- Resources are used effectively to engage pupils of all age groups and abilities.

Areas for Development:

- Pupils could be involved in lighting and extinguishing the worship candles as a distinctive start and finish to the service.
- The beginning of collective worship would be further enhanced by use of a Christian greeting.

Overall Grade: 1

How effective is the religious education?

Strengths:

- RE is valued as a subject by all members of the school community. When questioned a Year 6 pupil replied that he enjoyed RE because he had, "a chance to think, reflect and even debate."
- Effective self-evaluation has identified the need to improve learning and teaching of RE. The impact of this is beginning to be evident.
- The Headteacher and new RE Leader have a strong vision for improvement and are supported by all members of staff.

Areas for Development:

- The scheme of work needs to be further developed to ensure the teaching of faiths studied is less spasmodic.
- Planning needs to be sufficiently detailed to support and improve teachers' knowledge of the subject.
- Children's range of learning styles should be acknowledged in the planning to inspire and engage all pupils.
- There are elements of good teaching in some lessons, but improvement is needed where pace is too slow to generate and sustain interest for learners.
- Development of independence needs to be part of the school's learning ethos.
- Assessment procedures need to inform planning in order to raise achievement in RE.

Overall Grade: 3

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

Strengths:

- The Headteacher's outstanding leadership, well supported by Governors, ensures a clear commitment to the Christian vision for the school
- The Headteacher has inspired his staff to ensure their involvement and commitment to improvement.
- The school's strong capacity for improvement is evident through procedures for self-evaluation and planning.
- There is a distinctive community feel within the school, which includes good church links.
- The Headteacher, school staff and Governors involved pupils and parents in decision making and identification of areas for improvement. As the use of consultation questionnaires is further embedded there will be an even stronger impact.

Areas for Development:

- Continue to build on the expertise of the Deputy Headteacher for effective induction as the new RE Leader.
- Implement the vision for improvement in RE.

Overall Grade: 2

SIAS report June 2006 Andrews' Endowed Church of England Primary School, 92 London Road, Holybourne, Alton, Hampshire GU34 4EL