

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Binbrook Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Orford Road
Market Rasen
Lincolnshire
LN8 6DU

Diocese of Lincoln

Lincolnshire Local Education Authority.

Inspected on 27/28.03.06 :

Previous inspection 9.10.2000

URN 120565

Headteacher: Mrs. Susan Beveridge

Inspector: Rev'd John Pryor.NS.184

School context

Binbrook is a small Church of England village Primary School serving the villages of Binbrook and Brookenby. The school is rightly proud of its Christian Foundation. There are 94 pupils, the buildings and grounds are ample in size, well laid out and well looked after. The school is situated on the outskirts of Binbrook, and some distance from Brookenby which includes a significant proportion of rented accommodation. This increases the number of pupils moving in and out of the school. There is a higher than average number of pupils who need extra support with their work

Summary Judgement

Binbrook Church of England Primary is a GOOD school whose pupils develop good levels of self-confidence, learning and behavioural skills across a broad range of activities. It is an improving school with most of its pupils making good progress towards standards expected of them. All this is conducted within a warm, generous and engaging Christian ethos.

Established strengths

- Very good pastoral care, which ensures that everyone in the school feels valued.
- Very good support for pupils who find work or good behaviour difficult to achieve
- A clear and united vision of what the school can become
- A flexible programme of development in all aspects of the school

Focus for development

- Continue to use the improvements in pupils' self-esteem, behaviour and attitudes to work
- Continue to find ways to extend and deepen the pupils' spiritual development
- Continue to find ways to extend the pupils' cultural development further.
- Continue to develop further the positive links with parents and the community

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

This is GOOD because the school through its clear, attractive and distinctive Christian character ensures that everyone involved its life knows they are valued, and as a result achieve well. Over recent years, previous difficulties and divisions have been overcome well. Cooperative endeavour has ensured that pupils' self-esteem has been increased, standards of behaviour improved and the ground for improvements in standards soundly laid. "Every child matters" and "inclusion" are lived experiences not slogans in policies. The imaginative and sensitive support for pupils with educational, behavioural difficulties or pastoral needs is particularly good.

The efforts of the school to deliver its aims effectively have been recognized by the 'Investors in People', and 'Healthy Schools' awards and in the positive comments of the recent Ofsted report. This inspection confirms this also.

The school meets the needs of all its pupils well. It provides a broad and interesting curriculum, a range of clubs and after-school activities, including sports the arts and music.

Wisely the staff are ready to seize occasions to provide extra experiences and opportunities for the benefit of the pupils. The displays and decoration in the school add significantly to the feeling that it is a special place worth working hard to support and feeling proud of.

The School Council is a confident group of pupils whose voice is listened to, they initiate ideas for improving the school, and respond thoughtfully when asked for the pupils' views. These are also canvassed by questionnaires for all the children. The entrance and displays around the school especially the coloured glass doors to the hall, well-displayed aims and policy documents show its pride in the Christian character that strongly influences the life of the school for good.

The Christian character of the school is exemplified very well in the presentation of a bible to every child to take, keep and use at home. The staff and pupils speak easily about God and the school has already identified the usefulness of a "Thoughts Board" to focus pupils' reflection and prayers.

What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?

The collective worship provided in the school is outstanding and the pupils' response is wholehearted. Pupils of all ages enjoy participating in the well-planned assemblies and are thoughtful and reverent in the prayers and times of reflection provided in each. School worship is well planned, carefully recorded and imaginatively delivered. There is a very good level of staff participation in all the acts of worship and this emphasises the importance of collective worship in the life of the school. The pattern of worship includes whole school and Key Stage assemblies visits to the parish church for major festivals and an end of term service. Year 6 regularly attend the Church Schools' Festival in Lincoln Cathedral and experience worship there alongside some four hundred pupils from other schools. This gives them a good idea of the breadth of worship and of the extent of the Church.

The singing in collective worship is particularly good, it is enthusiastic and tuneful and above all enjoyed by pupils of all ages. The hall is set out well; pupils take responsibility for the recorded music, the overhead projector and the lights. A number of visitors lead assembly, and bring extra variety and interest to the worship.

Collective worship is very well planned and a record is kept of what is done and how well the pupils received it. Friday Collective Worship is a celebration of the week and an occasion for reflection and thanksgiving. The pupils grow up knowing that worship is an integral part of living in a community, this is supported by the regular use of a special school prayer along with the Lord's Prayer. The planning of worship involves the patterns of the Church and School Year, major religious and moral themes and the link with adult worship in the churches is maintained.

The collective worship in the school is a major factor in establishing its very supportive and welcoming ethos providing pupils with models of how to manage growth, change, difference happiness, sadness, hope and trust, all of which contribute to the richness of their lives.

How effective is the religious education?

The good quality of the pupils' religious understanding, because of the well-planned programme of religious education, supports their good levels of spiritual, moral and social development. It also plays a significant role in the development of cultural education, though plans to extend this to include more examples of cultures other than the British are still being developed. Some use is already made of visitors to the school to extend the pupils' experience and more is planned. The church buildings are used effectively for studies in religious education as well as other subjects and this provides a useful link with the local community. The pupils enjoy religious education, not least because they are encouraged to think for themselves in the lessons.

The assessment of religious education enables the teachers to make accurate judgements about the pupils' progress and is a good feature in the management of the pupils' spiritual and moral development. The school is busy upgrading the resources to support religious education, and this is an important feature of the very good and soundly based Christian ethos of this Church school.

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

The staff management team has developed a clear vision for the improvement of the school, which is shared by the governors. Effective cooperation and trust results from the very good and inspirational leadership of the Headteacher. The Foundation Governors contribute significantly to maintaining the distinctive Christian ethos in the management of the school. Governors make it clear when appointing new staff that they will be joining a Church school. This unity of aim and purpose has had a positive effect on pupil behaviour and self-esteem and has a growing effect on standards.

There is an improving link with the Parish. A number of events take place involving the school and the local community such as the Senior Citizen's Christmas Lunch and the annual visit to the pantomime. Fund raising for international causes are also joint efforts.

The staff are valued by the management of the school, and know it. Use is made of diocesan support for their personal and professional development. Parent questionnaires are being used effectively to discover their response to what the school is offering.

The good leadership and management style developed over the past two years has enabled the school to maintain positive relationships with the local community even when disputes arise. The same style has meant that the long-term programme for school improvement has solid support.

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