

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican School

The Bishop of Winchester Church of England Voluntary Aided Comprehensive School

Mallard Road
BOURNEMOUTH
BH8 9PW

Diocese Winchester

LA: Bournemouth

Dates of inspection 3rd – 5th Nov 2005

Date of last inspection: 1999

School's Unique reference number: 134702

Name of Headteacher. Ms Jean McBain

Inspector's name: Mrs Lilian Weatherley No. 42

Preface

This review was carried out under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005 to report to the governors on the distinctiveness and effectiveness of Church of England schools.

School Context

The Bishop of Winchester Comprehensive School is a newly formed Church of England School, September 2004, in the borough of Bournemouth, which has a variety of school categories. There are local Grammar Schools that offer conditional places to pupils who chose to take examinations at 11. In addition there are also single sex schools and 11 – 18 schools to which parents may send their children

At the time of the previous Ofsted Report (January 04) the school, Summerbee Comprehensive School, was not a Church School and was placed into 'Special Measures'

Summerbee School was closed in August 2004 and reopened in the September as a Church School with a new governing body. Although the school then lost its 'Special Measures' category some of the problems with unsatisfactory teaching, learning and progress, staffing, attendance and behaviour were still present

The change of status also presented additional problems for the governing body working on its Ofsted action plan. It was disbanded and then reconstituted to meet the legal requirements for Church schools

The newly appointed headteacher, senior management team and the reformed governing body have worked hard to change the ethos of the school and develop its distinctive Christian Character. The school name was changed, the pupils were given new uniforms and considerable effort was put into improving the attendance, behaviour and attitudes of the pupils.

The proportion of pupils with Special Educational Needs is well above average. The range of needs is broad and includes specific learning difficulties, social, emotional and behavioural difficulties. The mobility of pupils also tends to be high. This is related to families moving in and out of Bournemouth for seasonal work

A programme for Collective Worship was put in place and this was based on Christian values in order to influence pupil attitudes and behaviour and to ensure that legal requirements were met

Support is given from the local clergy not only for worship but also to assist with the pastoral care of the pupils and staff

The school has made significant improvements since its last Ofsted inspection and the distinctive Christian character of the school is developing; however it is still in its infancy. The significant issues of inadequate pupil progress, teaching and learning are still overshadowing the school as a Church School which meets the needs of all learners.

The school now has a clear mission statement, aims and objectives based on Christian values and it aims to provide 'a high quality secondary education' within a

Christian environment.

At the time of this LA / Diocesan review the headteacher has just submitted her resignation to take up a new appointment

This is the first review of the school under Section 48 since the school changed its status and became a Church School

Summary Judgement

The Bishop of Winchester Comprehensive School is currently an inadequate Church School

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

Overall Grade 4

The school has a high proportion of unsatisfactory teaching and learning. This is having a detrimental effect on the progress that the school is making towards becoming a successful Church School and meeting the needs of all learners.

Strengths:

- The enthusiasm of the senior management and the governing body to improve standards in the school and to develop its distinctive Christian character
- The improvement made in the rates of attendance over recent months
- The increased stability of the staffing
- The increased support given to pupils through personal tutorial, programmes, the pastoral system, careers guidance and social inclusion
- The work of the school council
- Provision for art and design in the school is outstanding and the art department has made a considerable improvement to the spiritual environment of the school and the value it places on pupil work
- The majority of pupils like their school

Weaknesses:

- The lack of understanding from middle managers and other staff as to what constitutes excellence in a Church School
- The high levels of inadequate teaching, learning and pupil progress across the school
- The poor behaviour and swearing by a significant number of pupils
- The lack of understanding by some staff about key Christian values
- The lack of respect shown for some teaching staff by some pupils
- The pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development across the curriculum

Areas for Development;

- As an urgency improve the quality of pupil progress across the school
- As an urgency improve teaching and learning in some areas
- Continue to develop the schools distinctive Christian character based on Christian values

How effective is the worshipping experience provided by the school?

Overall Grade 3

The Collective Worship experience provided by the school is currently satisfactory.

Since the change of status the school has worked hard at developing both the

provision for worship and the quality of that provision for its pupils.

Strengths:

- The worship is meeting legal requirements
- The worship is carefully planned for all pupils across the school
- The worship is taken seriously by the senior management and governing body
- Year group worship in the hall is generally satisfactory or better. Pupils enter and leave in an orderly manner and show respect and enjoyment for what is provided.
- Opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are provided through the worship
- The support given by the local clergy

Weaknesses:

- Not all staff are clear about what constitutes an Act of Worship
- The quality of the worship provided by the school is inconsistent across the school. Where staff feel happy about the delivery of worship both the quality and the impact on pupils is good. Where staff feel uncertain the quality and impact is satisfactory and in some cases inadequate

Areas for development:

- Staff training in what constitutes an Act of Worship in a Church School
- Staff training in creative ideas to engage the pupil

How effective is the religious education?

Overall Grade 4

The effectiveness of the Religious Education provided by the school is inadequate. Standards of achievement in Religious Education across the school are unsatisfactory. A significant number of pupils are not achieving in line with the local agreed syllabus at key stage 3.

Strengths:

- Religious Education is meeting statutory requirements and is taken seriously by the senior management and governing body
- The improving results of the GCSE short course for RE
- The dedication and detailed planning of the subject leader
- Relationships in most classes are positive
- The majority of pupils enjoy RE
- Good use of starter activities to engage pupils

Weaknesses:

- The inconsistent quality of teaching and learning across the department
- The pace of pupil progress in Religious Education
- The lack of focus on learning outcomes for the pupils
- The lack of clear and focused assessment
- The lack of challenge for the more able pupils
- The inconsistency of planning across the department
- Low expectations of pupils in some classes
- Over emphasis on low level tasks and work sheets
- The quality and quantity of work in pupil books is inadequate

Areas for Development:

- As a matter of urgency, revise the scheme of work for RE to meet the needs of the Develop a GCSE Course that helps to raise attainment for boys as well as girls, the new Bournemouth Agreed Syllabus and the Church of England

document 'Excellence and Distinctiveness' for Church Schools

- Implement a clear process for assessment of pupils in line with the QCA levels
- Implement the GCSE short course in Year 9
- Develop a GCSE course that helps to raise attainment for boys as well as girls

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

Overall Grade 3

The overall leadership and management of the school are having a satisfactory impact on the school becoming a Church School with a distinctive Christian character. The vision is present but management of the process is stronger than the leadership to implement the vision

The headteacher and the foundation governors have worked hard to change the status of the school and to develop its distinctive Christian character. This is taking longer than hoped because of the significant issues related to pupils' progress, teaching and learning

Strengths:

- The foundation governors actively promote the school within the community and fully support the distinctive Christian character of the school
- The newly elected chair of governors is a parish priest and works closely with the headteacher, senior management team, staff and pupils to realise the school's Christian vision
- The eagerness of the governing body and the senior management to involve the learners, parents, carers and stakeholders in the future development of the school
- The pupils are proud of their new uniforms with the Bishop's crest

Weaknesses:

- Not all middle leaders and staff understand what it means to work in a Church of England school
- Not all staff fully support the change of status of the school
- The lack of consistency across the school in putting the Christian nature of the school into practice
- The school's policy documents are not yet fully in place, underpinned by Christian values and the Christian vision for the school
- Improve the quality of the school buildings

Areas for Development:

- Appoint a new headteacher who has a clear vision and understanding of what constitutes excellence in a Church School
- Continue to implement a programme of in-service training for all staff on the distinctive Christian character of Church Schools
- Continue to develop the links with the local feeder Church Schools, parishes, clergy and diocese
- Continue to develop the school as an inspirational teaching and learning environment for all pupils

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