

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Chobham St Lawrence's Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Bagshot Road

Chobham

GU24 8AB

Diocese: Guildford

Unique Reference Number 125168

LEA: Surrey

Date of last inspection: 15 – 16 February 2000

Inspection date: 5 & 12 May 2006

Headteacher: Mrs Linda Masterson

Inspector: Canon Peter Bruinvels (NSI 159)

Description of the school

Chobham St Lawrence is a one form entry Voluntary Aided Primary School serving the village of Chobham. Pupils joining the school represent the full ability range, but the level of attainment on entry is a little below the Surrey average.

Summary Judgement

Chobham St Lawrence Primary School is a good, inclusive and caring Church school with many strengths and a distinctive Christian ethos.

Established strengths

- A concern for nurturing the whole child
- Close links with the village church and the vicar in particular and the community
- Learners feel secure and demonstrate care for each other
- Spiritual, moral, social and cultural provision is good and pastoral support strong

Focus for development

- Governors to give consideration to renaming the school 'St Lawrence's CofE (A) Primary School' to more clearly promote itself as a Church of England school
- Governors to consider provision of a specific budget for resource materials and artefacts to support worship and RE
- To implement the planned programme of lesson observations, work sampling and assessment, to track pupil progress and to set attainment targets in RE
- To develop a more proactive partnership with parents through the development of a parents' forum

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

The school makes good provision in meeting the needs of all learners. Its Christian ethos of inclusivity, equality, mutual respect and love underpins all areas of school life. The school's philosophy of educating and developing the whole child is clearly based on the Christian view that all are made in God's image. All learners feel special and valued. Most learners are enabled to fulfill their potential.

Displays throughout the school of RE work, including prayers, demonstrate the learners' care and concern for their peers. Learners' experience in the areas of spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is good.

The majority of parents value the school's Christian ethos and many chose the school for that reason, recognizing the contribution this makes to the strong pastoral support.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good. The school places great emphasis on collective worship with daily acts of worship and regular school assemblies. Celebrations of the major festivals, Ash Wednesday, Holy Week and Harvest, take place in the Church. The vicar leads acts of worship twice a week, as well as hymn practice. The Lord's Prayer is said daily as is The Grace at lunchtime. Worship is very well prepared with set themes worked out between the vicar and RE Co-ordinator. Each class takes an Assembly once a term. The act of worship observed was led by Yr 2 on the theme of Guildford Cathedral and incorporated learners' prayers, reflection and hymns. Pupils entered and left quietly and were attentive. All staff attend worship. A Eucharist is held twice a term, to which parents and governors are invited. Some pupils also attend. All Staff lead Key Stage assemblies and the pupils enjoy being involved and writing about it afterwards. The wider community shares in the life of the school as part of the church congregation or attending the annual Remembrance Sunday Service. PCC foundation governors give reports at PCC Meetings and at the AGM on the life of "their school". The school meets the statutory requirements for collective worship.

How effective is the religious education?

The provision for religious education is satisfactory. Governors recognise the importance of RE within the curriculum. The RE Co-ordinator is very committed and has studied for the SACRE Diploma. Lessons are well planned. In lessons observed there was evident enthusiasm by the learners to listen, learn and to actively participate and good learning gains were made. The quality of learning and teaching in RE is satisfactory. Limited artefacts are available and a budget for RE should be considered. The school is working to establish a programme of lesson observations, work sampling and assessment, in order to track pupil progress and set attainment targets. The school follows the Diocesan Guidelines. The RE syllabus includes Hinduism, Judaism and Islam. The school meets the statutory requirements for religious education.

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

The interim headteacher and governors provide good leadership and management overall, devoting due attention to the distinctive Christian nature of the school as an Anglican foundation.

The School's policies on RE and collective worship are fully in place and emphasized in the Prospectus. The interim headteacher has addressed the Chobham Community Leaders' lunch. There are plans to set up a parents' forum to develop a stronger partnership between home and school.

The school has identified developments to further improve provision for all children as part of its commitment to each individual child.

SIAS report May 2006 Chobham St Lawrence's Church of England (Aided) Primary School Chobham GU24 8AB