

**Durrington All Saints Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School**

School Road

Durrington

Salisbury

Wiltshire

SP4 8HJ

**Diocese of Salisbury**

Wiltshire LEA

SIAS inspection: 17 November 2005

Previous S23 inspection: November 2000

URN: 126324

Headteacher: Mrs. J. Andrews

SIAS Inspector NS 112: Mrs. J. Bellamy

**School Context**

Durrington All Saints is a 2 form entry Infant School set in a village on the edge of Salisbury Plain. There have been a considerable number of changes in staff and governors in the recent past. The majority of the pupils come from the catchment area with a significant minority from a military family background.

**Summary Judgement**

Durrington All Saints Infants School is a good Church school with many strengths. It has a distinctively Christian ethos that permeates all aspects of school life.

**Established strengths**

- The high standard of pastoral care for all its pupils
- Very good supportive relationships throughout the whole school community
- Continued striving to maintain and improve the standards in all areas of school life

**Focus for development**

In order to move from a good to an outstanding distinctive Christian character that is meeting the needs of its pupils, the school should:-

- Review the Mission Statement in order to make it consistently relevant to all members of the school community.

In order to improve from good to outstanding in leadership and management as a church school, the school should:-

- Ensure that the assessment, monitoring and evaluation procedures for Collective Worship pay due attention to the impact it is having on the pupils.

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

The school makes good provision to meet the needs of all its learners through its strong implicit Christian ethos. This has evolved based on Christian aims and values but a review of the Mission Statement would strengthen and enhance its relevance to all members of the school community. The school is effective in promoting the development of all the pupils' personal qualities and achievements and as a result the learners feel esteemed and special.

The school has a good level of inclusion with a strong emphasis placed on developing independence of thought and behaviour, for example currently the school is working towards the Healthy School Award and a School Council has recently been successfully introduced.

Value is placed on the uniqueness of each child, thus allowing everyone to achieve their potential. Respect and concern is consistently being shown by all members of the school community to each other. This generates an open friendly atmosphere where all are welcomed in a secure environment. Relationships are very good. Mutual support is available through practical means and at prayer times. As a result Christian belief is put into concrete and relevant practice.

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

The impact of Collective Worship on the whole school community is good. The centrality of school worship is evident. Collaboration between school and church representatives of several Christian denominations ensures that the planning is thorough and reflects Christian values and traditions while making certain that it is relevant and appropriate for the pupils. A variety of styles and approaches are used to lead worship. These are demonstrably beneficial as the pupils were able to make connections between them as well as relevance for themselves in everyday school life. Talking to pupils indicated that they are aware that worship is very important part of the school day and that it is an opportunity to reflect on aspects of their lives beyond the academic. Parents' comments also reflect awareness of the positive impact that worship has on the learners.

There is a system for monitoring worship in place. The quality of worship observed was good. The pupils were eager and willing to participate. "The theme was reinforced during the day and, therefore, encouragement was given to put into practice the ideas presented in worship. Pupils were congratulated for doing so."

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

The good leadership, personified by the Headteacher, contributes significantly to the success of the school as a church school. The roles and responsibilities of the foundation governors are clearly defined. Collective Worship and Religious Education are regular agenda items at full governors meetings emphasizing the centrality of the school's Christian status. In addition, named governors are involved in a monitoring role that informs future planning, but this could be further developed. Both Collective Worship and Religious Education have specific development plans that are being currently implemented. Evidence of good practice in the teaching of Religious Education was observed as were examples of displays relating to the subject leading. Overall the standards in Religious Education were good. Assessment of the Religious Education is being undertaken and due for review. It would be advantageous if this was extended to include consideration of the impact the subject has on the pupils' personal and academic development. The whole school community is very caring of its immediate environment and is looking for ways to extend this by creating a link with an overseas Christian school.

Parents are satisfied that the school provides a caring environment, based on Christian values that allow pupils to flourish as individuals. They can identify a special quality which is distinctively Christian which impacts positively on the children. They feel that pupils of All Saints, Durrington have a strong sense of identity, and have opportunities to learn and develop as independent individuals within a caring Christian environment.