

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### Eton Porny Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

High Street

ETON

WINDSOR

Berkshire

SL4 6AS

**Diocese: OXFORD**

LA: Windsor and Maidenhead

Dates of inspection: July 5 2006

Date of last inspection: October 1999

School's Unique reference number: 109998

Headteacher: Christine McLeod

Inspector's name and number: Mari Powell NSIN 143

#### Summary Judgement

Eton Porny is a good church school. Its distinctive Christian values are well in keeping with the school's proud traditions.

#### Established strengths

- The headteacher's good, committed leadership.
- The inclusiveness with which the school embraces a variety of cultures and faiths.
- The careful planning to ensure that worship is a meaningful, enjoyable experience.

#### Focus for development

- To keep fuller records of effective aspects of school worship so that they may help the staff to sustain good practice.
- Consider amending two of the statements in the prospectus to reflect more closely the school's unquestionable commitment to its Anglican status.

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

The good Christian ethos of the school is distinctive and ensures that all aspects of the pupils' development are well promoted.

The school is very active in promoting the worth and self-esteem of every member. Every effort is made to develop the holistic well-being of each pupil. As a result, the children develop confidence and positively embrace and respect the contribution of different cultures to the life of the school. A strong culture of celebration permeates worship. It is also reflected in the displays of children's work. In the Foundation Stage classroom, there are examples of work supported by an attractive display of wedding robes from various countries. In another corner, the role-play area has been converted into a church and inspires some imaginative work, which also supports the fact that the children treat it with veneration!

Many areas of the school display artefacts from the Christian, Muslim, Hindu and Sikh traditions. These capture the pupils' interest; one child was very eager to talk about them, drawing upon what he had learned during a lesson in religious education. There are also photographs and other materials to remind the pupils of the school's historic Christian foundation. The school has a very welcoming atmosphere.

Pupils behave well because their moral and social development is consistently promoted. The effectiveness of their spiritual development was very apparent in their pride and sensitivity when pointing out features of the school grounds. The children are attentive during periods of worship and very cooperative when asked to play lead roles. They engage in many charitable activities such as supporting medical charities and Guide Dogs for the Blind. All the children are given opportunities to undertake lead roles, for example, during school worship. Their self-confidence and pride in their achievements develop well as a result.

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

The impact of collective worship is good and contributes well to spiritual and moral development

Periods of worship provide a focal point in the school day and are enjoyed by the pupils. The themes chosen over a year are compatible with the school's determination to ensure that its value system is made very explicit. On the occasion attended by the visitor, the parents of the class leading the worship were made to feel very welcome and warmly celebrated their children's achievements. Worship is fully consistent with the school's status as an Anglican school that is fully inclusive of all its members. The children know a good range of prayers and have compiled a collection of their own which are in regular use. The attitude to prayer is reflective and entirely appropriate. Pupils attend St John's church and Eton College chapel for special services. After one Christingle service at the College, on receiving her Christingle, one child wrote "I nearly burst with joy". Others recorded their awe and wonder at being in "a real church". Many children demonstrate that music is an important element of worship for them. The school has now addressed an issue identified at the last inspection and is providing sufficient opportunities for reflection. This was demonstrated when members of the school council talked in a very thoughtful way about their role in school. However in spite of the careful planning of worship, records are not sufficiently evaluative to support staff to sustain good practice.

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

The leadership and management of the school as a church school are good. The headteacher with the deputy and the staff, well supported by the governors, communicates a strong, consistent Christian vision. This is apparent in the way they work together, face the challenges of school life and show integrity in carrying out their work. This reflects well upon the children who, when occasional differences arise, are helped to confront them and seek resolutions that contribute to a harmonious community. The school has formed strong and mutually beneficial partnerships, for example, with St John's church and the College. The enthusiasm of governors contributes materially to enriching the pupils' experiences in school. For example some foreign language teaching takes place as a result of a governor link with the College. Equally, school leaders work hard to engage parents in the life of the school. As a result the curriculum has been considerably enriched, for example, by parents who have contributed to the wider cultural life of the school. This is helping pupils to develop a sense of citizenship and to begin to understand some global issues. The school is developing ways of involving its partners more in evaluating its progress and is eager to advance this work further.

SIAS report July 5 2006 Eton Porny Church of England First School High Street Eton Windsor SL4 6AS High Street ETON WINDSOR Berkshire SL4 6AS