

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### Fairfield Endowed Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Boarstones Lane  
FAIRFIELD  
BUXTON  
Derbyshire  
SK17 7NA

**Diocese: Derby**

LA: Derbyshire

Dates of inspection: 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2006.

Date of last inspection: 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> October 1999

School's Unique reference number: 112806

Headteacher: Mrs M. G. Buckley.

Inspector's name and number: David Gordon 309

#### School context

Fairfield Endowed is situated on a large estate on the edge of Buxton. The community around school has a strong spirit of community but faces a number of social problems, which are being addressed by the local council and residents together. The school has recently been remodelled to provide better facilities for the children giving them clearly defined bases to work from. There is a very supportive group, The Friends of Fairfield Endowed Junior School which add to the experience for the children in a very positive way.

#### Summary Judgement

This school is a caring church school with a Christ-centred ethos with a number of strengths. It works in partnership with the local church and community and is committed to the development and education of the whole child.

#### Established strengths

- The leadership and committed teamwork combine well to help move the school forward and is encouraging learners to flourish.
- Christian values, taught and demonstrated, are beginning to impact on relationships and behaviour, creating an atmosphere of mutual respect and Christian love.
- The school's Fair Deal policy, Positive Play programme and Stance on Bullying all promote a positive attitude in the learners.

#### Focus for development

- To develop a more formalised way of involving the whole staff in the evaluation of the impact of Collective Worship.
- The Staff and Governors need to look at ways of increasing the role of the Incumbent in the daily life of school, above and beyond his role as Governor.
- To develop the place of prayer in the daily life of school

#### 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.

The school demonstrates a clear Christian message to the whole community, with the Christian ethos permeating all aspects of the school. The children are supported by a compassionate staff who endeavour to provide an environment that is supportive and caring. The examples presented by all the adults in the school are positive role models for the children and are helping to develop the children's understanding of the world in which they live. The children feel safe within the school and know that their views, expressed by the School Council are listened to and valued. However, the children miss the role taken by the previous incumbent in leading Worship in the school on a regular basis.

The school provides a stable environment in which children are encouraged to develop their potential, programmes are in place to help children with specific needs and the Positive Play programme is worthy of note in this.

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

Acts of Collective Worship in the school are of a good standard promoting the Christian Ethos of the school.

Acts of Worship in the school are well planned for by the Worship Co-ordinator and senior staff, a wide range of resources are available for staff to use and a variety of styles are demonstrated in the planning of Collective Worship; evaluation of Worship is restricted to the senior management team. Appropriate actions and sentences are used to open worship and the use of international responses add to the inclusivity of the celebration. Children are involved fully in the worship and regularly take part.

They were able to demonstrate that they had a sound knowledge of the role of worship in school and talked clearly about celebrations and biblical issues raised.

The learners enjoy the occasional times when prayer is used throughout the day.

The impact of worship and the religious life of the school was vividly demonstrated by one pupil who on the day of inspection was being Christened, after school, because she wanted to be a 'proper' Christian following on from the examples she had seen at school.

**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 satisfactory, with some good aspects.

The Headteacher, governors and Staff work well together and have a shared Christian vision for the school. The incumbent has a supportive role with the staff and is a regular member of the governing body serving on a number of committees.

The governors are happy with the way school is managed and recognise that it offers more to the children than purely academic achievement, appreciating the range of experiences offered to the children help them to become valuable citizens in a multi cultural world.

The majority of parents/carers are happy with the school, as demonstrated by the school's regular parental questionnaire, and believe that it supports their children well. All the children interviewed spoke well about school and felt that it 'helped them to learn and do their best',