

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Filey Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School,

Filey,
N.Yorkshire
YO14 0BA

Diocese: York

LEA: North Yorkshire

Dates of inspection: March 16 & 17 2006

Date of last inspection: 2000

School's Unique reference number: 121533

Name of Headteacher: Mrs Janet Wharrier

Inspector's name with National Society inspector's number: Jill Pauling-196

Context of the school

Filey CE Infant and Nursery School has 232 pupils on roll including 52 part time nursery places. It is the only nursery and infant school in a seaside town that has a seasonal fluctuating population. The school is situated in one of the most significantly deprived areas in North Yorkshire and Sure Start is currently providing funding to build a children's' centre on site.

Summary Judgement

Filey CE Infant and Nursery School is a good church school with some outstanding features, where individuals are enabled and encouraged to develop and thrive within a happy, Christian environment.

Established strengths

- There is a distinctive, inclusive Christian ethos with very good pastoral care.
- Pupils are confident, independent and well behaved and their skills and aptitudes are celebrated, cherished and nurtured.
- Strong relationships, underpinned by Christian values, flourish throughout the whole school community.
- There is a close and mutually supportive relationship between Church and School and especially good links with the newly ordained clergy.

Focus for development

- Involve all relevant stakeholders in developing a meaningful system and procedures for monitoring and evaluating collective worship.
- Develop practical guidelines for visitors leading worship.

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

The distinctive Christian ethos of the school is outstanding. Learners feel valued and confident that their voice will be heard. Their friendly, outgoing attitude to visitors reflects the secure, family nature of the school. Learners of all types flourish and achievement is high in relation to prior attainment and social background. Children are able to talk enthusiastically about the special nature of their school as a church school and are keen to identify and explain the displays and artefacts that reflect the Christian foundation of the school. Whatever the faith background of the children, their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is excellent. Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the inclusive and caring nature of the school. Children behave responsibly, respecting others and relationships throughout the school are very good. Children with special educational needs thrive. For example, the sensitive and dedicated intervention with a profoundly deaf Year 1 child has resulted in her beginning to talk.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good. The learners benefit from high quality collective worship, which provides the focus for each school day. They talk with enthusiasm about the range and variety of worship activities. All the school community speak about the important part that worship plays in the life of the school. Recently the nursery constructed a colourful box that sits on the worship table. Children are encouraged to place prayers in it that they have written at home and shared in school. Acts of worship are consistently well planned, imaginative and inspiring. There is regular participation by both individuals and groups of learners. Worship has a good impact on the learner because it is well-pitched and rich in content. It evokes a positive response from all attending, including learners, staff, parents and visitors. All staff take an active part. Local clergy regularly participate. Worship is consistently Christian with strong Anglican elements. The whole school regularly attends the Parish church. The vicar describes her involvement with the school as 'The jewel in the crown'. Each class ends the school day with class prayers. The school also recognises and is sensitive to the beliefs and traditions of those children from other sects and faiths and takes care to ensure that there is constructive dialogue with all their families.

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

The leadership and management of the school, as a church school, is good. All the school community have a strong sense of identity. The headteacher, governors and SMT work continuously to promote and articulate a distinctive Christian vision for the school. The quality of leadership given by the headteacher is highly effective and all staff feel valued and affirmed. They speak of a strong team ethos based on Christian principles. There are close, productive links with members of the local Church, who give the school prayerful support. The 'Sparklers' club, run by the Vicar encourages the children's spiritual growth and understanding of Gospel teaching. The impact of R.E. teaching is good throughout the school. The R.E. Co-ordinator ensures that children of all ages are able to learn from first class programmes of study. The learners are able to talk confidently about significant features from their R.E. curriculum. A good example of this is a Year 2 child who was able to confidently compare and contrast Hanukah celebrations in a Jewish home with Christmas celebrations in a Christian home.

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