

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Greenford Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Chilfrome Lane
Maiden Newton
Dorset
DT2 0AX

Diocese: Salisbury

LA: Dorset

Dates of inspection: 23 May 2006

Date of last inspection: 30 October, 1 November 2000

School's Unique reference number: 113762

Headteacher: Mr M F Atkinson

Inspector's name and number: Mr A Page

School context

Greenford Church of England Primary School is a small village school of 99 pupils, substantially fewer than at the last inspection, due to demographical changes. Almost all pupils are White British and the vast majority are drawn from the school's catchment area. The current leadership of the school is well established.

Summary Judgement

The school's distinctiveness and effectiveness as a Church of England Primary School are satisfactory with some good features.

Established strengths

- The underlying Christian values of the school enable the pupils to develop positive attitudes, relationships and behaviour.
- The strong support of the local parish team makes a major contribution to the Christian knowledge and understanding of the pupils.
- The regular links with the local church make a significant contribution to the Christian character of the school and the pupils' spiritual and moral development.

Focus for development

- The head teacher and foundation governors should improve the evaluation of the school's effectiveness and distinctiveness as a church school through formal and regular processes of monitoring and evaluating its RE, collective worship and Christian character.
- The head teacher and foundation governors should include a review of the school's church foundation and Christian character as a regular part of the school development plan.

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

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, meets the needs of all learners to a good standard.

All the pupils are valued and treated equally. They are encouraged to perform to the best of their ability in line with the Christian values set out in the ethos statement in the prospectus. The pupils on the school council speak well of opportunities to celebrate achievements in collective worship, to which parents are invited. Regular opportunities for prayer and reflection in collective worship, for example those led by the local parish team, enable the pupils to grow in their spiritual and moral development. The agreed codes of conduct and approaches to conflict resolution strongly contribute to the pupils' positive relationships, behaviour and attitudes. Parents, staff and pupils all speak of the friendly and supportive atmosphere that is a mark of the school's character and its underlying Christian values.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school community is satisfactory.

Collective worship is on the current school development plan and partly planned by the local parish team. Some, but not all, acts of worship are recorded and checked for quality by staff but this is yet to be formalised by the foundation governors.

Neither RE nor collective worship have named members of staff to act as co-

ordinators which reduces the knowledge that the school has of the resulting impact on pupils. The pupils generally enjoy collective worship which provides them with regular opportunities to participate. The planning of collective worship gives the pupils a programme of a broadly Christian character, but one which also benefits the pupils with some distinctive Christian content from the local parish team. One pupil spoke of having learned about Jesus as a servant leader. At these times the pupils develop their knowledge of the Anglican tradition, using traditional responses and the Lord's Prayer each week. In addition, the pupils worship at the local church for some of the main Christian festivals. Parents are invited and these occasions are well attended, valuable community events. The pupils are made aware of the school's Christian and church foundation mainly through its events and activities rather than through symbols and displays.

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

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school, as a church school, is satisfactory.

The head teacher has begun to use the self evaluation toolkit for church schools and in time this will prove to be an effective process for development. Some progress has been made since the last inspection in relation to issues of distinctiveness as a church school and the school is well placed to develop these further. The foundation governors support the school in its vision as a church school and will be even better placed to develop this further when another governor appointment is made. Pupils and parents are aware of the school's church foundation mainly through the ethos statement in the prospectus and special festival services at the local church. Parents speak well of the church links and regard this characteristic of the school as one to be welcomed. Members of staff support the school's leadership and actively work together in order to benefit the pupils' spiritual and moral development, by acting as positive role models. The pupils in the school continue to derive great benefit from the regular involvement and partnership with the local parish team.

SIAS report May 2006 Greenford CE VC Primary School Chilfrome Lane Maiden Newton Dorset DT2 0AX