

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Hook Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Garth Lane,
Hook,
Goole,
East Riding of Yorkshire,
DN14 5NW

Diocese: Sheffield

LA: East Riding of Yorkshire

Dates of inspection: 5-05-06

Date of last inspection: July 2000

School's Unique reference number: 118029

Headteacher: Mrs. J Huscroft

Inspector's name and number: NS129 Mr. J.W. Bradley

School context

Hook Church of England School is pleasantly situated in the village of Hook, close to Goole. The school serves the village, but there are a considerable number of applications for places from outside its recognised catchment area. The majority of the children are white British and no pupil is learning English as an additional language.

Summary Judgement

Hook C.E. Primary is an outstanding Church School with an all-pervading Christian ethos. All concerned with the school feel their contributions are highly valued due to the high quality of relationships promoted and evident within it. The school is very successful and this success is clearly linked to the openness regarding its Christian ethos. The active promotion of Christian values creates a community in which all are encouraged and can thrive.

Established strengths

- The awareness and development of the many and varied aspects which result in the ethos of a caring Christian school.
- The organisation and impact of Collective Worship.
- The approach of the headteacher, leadership team and governors towards the vision of Hook as a Church School.

Focus for development

- To link the governing body more closely to the planning and evaluation of R.E.
- To consider ways in which the incumbent can become more involved with the school and, in particular, its Worship.

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

The school meets the needs of its learners in an outstanding way. The whole curriculum is actively influenced by the school's Christian ethos as, at the planning stage, opportunities for reflection and spiritual growth are included in all subjects. Relationships throughout the school are outstanding between all staff, children and parents. All views are taken into account, including the use of questionnaires. The School Council is very effective and all pupils are well represented by a group who really understand their role and whose views upon what constitutes a Christian ethos are taken into account. The school is very active within its community, where it is highly respected and regular events such as its village Christmas Lights Ceremony are much appreciated. Staff and governors actively promote the church school ethos and children learn appropriate life skills based upon sound Christian principles. The opportunity for reflection is an important part of teacher planning, with a consequent beneficial affect upon children's spirituality. Staff are excellent role models for the pupils and the high quality Christian displays and visual images around the school all add to the fact that this clearly is a Church School.

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

Collective Worship has an outstanding impact upon the school community. Worship is seen as a crucial part of this school's function and its effect reaches well beyond the act itself. Children regularly discuss and evaluate the content and relate it to life in school and beyond. This gives the pupils a real sense of ownership and involvement. It is well planned and led, but this does not include any contribution by

the incumbent at school worship. Worship is clearly enjoyed by all in a suitably calm and reverential atmosphere. Singing and corporate prayer are of a high standard and the school was involved in the writing of its own prayer. Anglican aspects are well addressed by the following of the Church Year. Regular opportunities for reflection are built into the planning, thus reflecting an important part of the school's overall aims.

How effective is the religious education?

The effectiveness of RE is outstanding. The planning makes very good links both with other subjects in the curriculum and with sound Christian life skills. The impact of teaching is regularly audited for progression and continuity and the conclusions then become part of the Improvement Plan. There is a good co-ordinator who advises colleagues well upon content and delivery but there is, as yet, no Link Governor for the subject. Children are knowledgeable and can make good links between the teaching and the inherent moral values appropriate to their own lives. They are also encouraged to adopt a questioning approach which is highly suitable in a Church School. Once again, these effects are due to the impact of opportunities for reflection being built into the planning, plus the important role the subject is afforded. Children's work in R.E. is recorded in an interesting variety of ways, such as in both dramatic and pictorial form in the same lesson and the subject is thus enjoyed. Other faiths are well taught and add an appropriate wider perspective.

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 outstanding. The headteacher, leadership team, staff and governors all share the same vision regarding how Hook C.E. School should develop and this progression is regularly discussed and evaluated. Christianity lies at the heart of its purpose and this is clearly expressed in its ethos statement and policies. The school is very open about its Church School status and is thus highly regarded by parents and local community, who praise its Christian commitment. The school uses its parish church to very good effect and the links are clearly evident in regular use of the building for school services and contributions to school life by parishioners. Foundation Governors are very aware of the importance of their role in respect of Church School status and this has a valuable effect upon the function of the whole governing body. Caring, respect and Christian values are constantly emphasised and implemented, resulting in a happy, successful school.

SIAS report Hook C.E. (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Garth Lane, Hook, Goole, East Riding of Yorkshire, DN14 5NW