

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Lincoln St Peter-in-Eastgate Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Greetwellgate

Lincoln

Lincs

LN2 4AW

Diocese: Lincoln

LA: Lincolnshire

Dates of inspection: 19 & 20 June 2006

Date of last inspection: November 2000

School's Unique reference number: 120560

Headteacher: Mrs J Yates

Inspector's name and number: Mrs Meg Hackney (NS198)

School context

St Peter-in-Eastgate Church of England Infants School is a small urban school located close to the Cathedral in the City of Lincoln. Pupils are drawn from a variety of backgrounds and cultures. For some pupils English is an additional language.

Summary Judgement

The school's distinctiveness and effectiveness as a Church of England school is outstanding. Christian values and principles underpin all areas of the school's work. The distinctive Christian ethos has a strong impact on the school community.

Established strengths

- The leadership and commitment of the acting Headteacher, clergy and governors in promoting a distinctive Christian vision for the school.
- The very close links with the church which makes a strong contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
- The excellent relationships underpinning the school's work and its strong Christian ethos.
- The outstanding quality of care for all pupils and the support provided for their special learning and language needs.
- The excellent attitude and behaviour which pupils demonstrate in all areas of the school.
- The very good use of the environment to encourage pupils' spiritual awareness.

Focus for development

There are no major issues for development. The following items, which the school has already identified, have been discussed with the acting Headteacher:

- Review the current list of topics for worship to increase the range of themes and their relevance to the Christian Year.
- Extend the use of monitoring and evaluation for collective worship to provide a more formative assessment of outcomes.

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

The school through its distinctive Christian character makes outstanding provision for all learners. Christian principles and values are at the very heart of this school. Pupils feel special and find the school an exciting and very happy place to be. They are proud that their achievements are recognised and celebrated. Pupils with special educational needs receive high quality support by staff and this helps them to make good progress and to be well integrated into all activities. The excellent quality of care provided for all pupils helps them to learn and to grow in confidence and self-esteem. Relationships are excellent and adults and pupils alike are trusted and very well supported by each other. The Christian ethos permeates all aspects of pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. Pupils for whom English is an additional language are welcomed and nurtured. The school is very well supported by the church in celebrating with families the different cultures and faiths within the school community. Religious education, which is closely linked to pupils' personal

and social development, has a strong influence on the school's Christian character. The school environment is attractive and inspirational and is used very well to encourage pupils' spiritual development. An example of this was seen in the Reception class when children took pleasure in observational drawing of broad beans which they had planted and harvested themselves in a small garden in the school grounds.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding. Collective worship is a very important part of the day and has a strong impact on the school community. A peaceful and reverent atmosphere is created to which pupils respond very positively. Their behaviour and attitude are exemplary. Pupils of all ages join in confidently with prayers, hymn singing and reflection. Older pupils show a well developed awareness of Anglican traditions and the wider church. Collective worship is imaginative and has a strong Christian focus but is also sensitive to the beliefs and traditions of other faiths. Pupils have a clear understanding of the major Christian festivals which are celebrated in school and in church. During the excellent act of worship which was led by the Vicar, pupils' knowledge of the Communion and their ability to name the disciples was impressive for this age group. Pupils look forward to collective worship and they demonstrate their enjoyment through their enthusiasm for listening to stories, singing and praying together. The daily act of worship is well planned and thoughtfully presented. Stories and reflection are well linked to religious education and PSHE and this helps to inspire pupils of all faiths and traditions. The current list of themes used for worship focus effectively on different issues throughout the Christian Year. At present the range of topics lacks breadth, and the school has already identified this as an area for further development.

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. Despite the school being without a permanent Headteacher, the acting Headteacher, staff and governors are firmly committed in their Christian vision for the school. They are exceptionally well supported by the clergy and members of the church community. This creates a warm and very effective partnership between the school and the church and provides pupils with a secure sense of belonging. The school's Christian aims and beliefs are well established and underpin all areas of its work. Pupils and parents value the strong Christian ethos in the school and the good quality of education provided. The school is highly effective in developing pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness and respect for other faiths. The staff work closely as a committed team and provide excellent role models for pupils. The leadership and management are consistently pro-active in ensuring that collective worship has a high profile in the school and that systems are in place to monitor and evaluate its effectiveness and influence on the pupils.

SIAS report June 2006 The Lincoln St Peter-in-Eastgate Church of England Infants School