

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### Manor Park School Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Mellstock Avenue,  
Dorchester,  
DT1 2BH

**Diocese: Salisbury**

LA: Dorset

Dates of inspection: April 27<sup>th</sup> 2006

Date of last inspection: November 1999

School's Unique reference number: 113791

Headteacher: Mrs. Jane Mockridge

Inspector's name and number: The Rev. M Garrard 9

#### School context

The school serves a mixed population from a defined catchment area in the eastern part of Dorchester. Many of the children come from the surrounding Manor Park Estate. A number of faiths are represented within the school.

#### Summary Judgement

The school is secure in its self - evaluation and is good in terms of the distinctiveness and effectiveness of its Christian foundation.

#### Established strengths

- Staff, parents and children feel valued and, therefore, are able to make perceptive comments and suggestions
- Pupils have a good understanding of the major Christian festivals
- A good grounding in care for others and in Christian teaching is laid in FS and KS1
- The excellent RE/Worship co-ordinator has a thorough knowledge of her subjects and provides an innovative and enthusiastic role model for all the teaching staff.
- Despite its size, and the need to work in units, the school can be seen as a cohesive whole, sharing the same values and aspirations.

#### Focus for development

- For school aims to make clear that Christian values underpin all they are working to achieve
- For all Foundation Governors to be pro-active in joining in some acts of worship, both unit and key stage, in order that they have informed opinions when worship is discussed at Governors' meetings
- For the term Collective Worship to be used consistently for both unit and key stage worship and continue to develop worship themes

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

- The school makes good provision for all learners
- All staff, parents and children are nurtured as individuals made in the image of God, and worthy of special care and attention. As a result, all opinions over a variety of issues are sought and valued.
- All children are taught to consider the needs of others.
- Good provision is made for children with SEN. Parents are given information about their children's needs in a sensitive way and invited to be involved with the help given.
- More able children speak of the enjoyment of being challenged
- The help of parents of children of other faiths is actively encouraged when a unit topic ( eg Food ) can include other traditions and special provision is made for their children where appropriate, for example, at Ramadan.

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

- Collective Worship makes a good impact on the community
- Children spoke of opportunities to reflect and respond in Collective Worship.
- Collective Worship provides a model in that some children said they prayed at home, with or without their parents
- The new reflection chairs, which are linked to unit worship themes, are beginning to help pupils find ways of thanking God for his creation and of praying for others in an individual and reflective way.

- All the work done last term, in worship and in classrooms, on the Christian meaning of Easter, has had a great impact on the children. For example, Y3's RE topic on Special People allowed pupils to speak with authority on why Jesus was special.

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

As a result of good management:

- The senior management team and RE/Worship co-ordinator are passionate about the distinctive nature of a church school and this is reflected in all aspects of the school's life.
- The vicar, ( a Foundation Governor), is developing a pastoral role with all the staff and is also working with the worship co-ordinator to develop the school's thrice yearly worship in Church, along with developing other projects using the church building. He also leads some acts of worship in the school.
- A parent governor, who is a practising Christian, is developing the school's repertoire of Christian songs, especially for festivals.
- Teachers are given help and guidance in worship themes and reflection/visualisation skills. They were seen to be comfortable with these in their units.
- Parents speak of being able to see the impact of a church school in recent months, both overtly in the Christian knowledge the children are bringing home and covertly in the care and excellent education their children receive.

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