

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### **Markington Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

Markington  
HARROGATE  
HG3 3NR

### **Diocese of Bradford Ripon and Leeds**

North Yorkshire LEA

SIAS inspection: 6 December 2005

Previous S23 inspection: 28 September and 3-4 October 2000

URN: 121576

Headteacher: Mrs. L. Paisley

SIAS Inspector NS# 351 : Mrs. F Beevers

### **Context**

Markington C of E Primary School is a small rural school (NOR 52), serving the village of Markington and surrounding areas. The school is housed in a Victorian building which has been extended to provide an additional classroom, staff and resource area. There is no school hall; however the school manages this situation very well.

### **Summary Judgement**

Markington is an outstanding school with a strong Christian ethos which underpins all that it does.

### **Established strengths**

- The care and value for each individual in the school to achieve his/her full potential
- The inspirational leadership of the headteacher and strong team ethos shared by all members of staff
- The high quality of personal spiritual, moral, social and cultural development for all pupils
- High quality of teaching throughout the school
- The mutual support and close links with parents, the church and wider community

### **Focus for further development**

- To continue to build on the links with other communities to enable children to learn about, with, and from children of other faiths and cultures
- To continue to maintain, develop and celebrate the links with the church and the inclusive and distinctive Christian foundation of the school

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

The school is outstanding in the ways it meets the needs of all learners through its distinctive Christian character.

The school makes excellent provision to meet the needs of all its learners. The school's Christian ethos which places great emphasis on valuing each individual enables all pupils to feel valued and special and to gain the skills and confidence to flourish. There is special care and emphasis in support for pupils with special educational needs and vulnerable pupils.

The supportive ethos encourages pupils to develop enquiring minds and attitudes in a safe and supportive environment. The use of philosophy and circle time activities throughout the curriculum enables pupils to express their views confidently and to listen appreciatively and to reflect on their own views and those of their peers with maturity. Pupils speak confidently, openly and naturally. They consistently display a spirit of co-operation and care for one another.

The voices of all members of the school community are encouraged, listened to and valued.

There are excellent and exemplary relationships evident throughout the school, characterised by Christian care and concern for others and the desire to live out the aims of the school.

**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 central to the life of the school. It is well planned involving members of staff, foundation governors and the church. There are high levels of participation by individuals and groups of pupils. All members of the school community, including voluntary helpers, find this a special time in the school day. Worship is consistently and recognisably Christian and honours the Christian tradition whilst also acknowledging the other major world faiths where appropriate. Collective worship is seen as a time for reflection and prayer as well as for sharing and celebration. A collection of prayers from the Anglican and other Christian traditions has been put together by pupils to be used in collective worship at different times. There are strong links with the parish church and increasingly greater links with representatives from different Christian denominations.

**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 is outstanding.

The headteacher provides exceptional leadership, governors including foundation governors, and all members of staff work in close partnership. The school's ethos is shared, understood and supported by all members of the school community and evident in practice in all aspects of school life. All staff feel valued and are actively involved in furthering the Christian vision of the school. The school operates a truly 'open' policy, welcoming suggestions and contributions from all members of the school community. Pupils and parents speak appreciatively of the school's Christian ethos and the contribution it makes to the children's all round development as well as the commitment of all staff to provide a high quality of education. Pupils feel that their voice is not only heard but they are also encouraged to question and reflect and to play an active responsible role in developing their school. Members of the School Council remarked that "the children run the school", then adding "in a controlled way".

The school enjoys close and productive relationship with the local church and wider community which it seeks to further develop through mutual discussion and evaluation.

**SIAS DECEMBER 2005 Markington CE VC Primary School, Harrogate, HG3 3NR**