

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Moseley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Oxford Road
Birmingham
B13 9EH

Diocese of Birmingham

Birmingham LEA

SIAS inspection: 14 November 2005

Previous S23 inspection: December 2000

URN: 103398

Headteacher: Mrs. Julia Burton

SIAS Inspector NS#135: Robert A. Cooke

Context

Moseley Church of England School is a popular, well-established school in a sought-after residential area. The school has strong links with the local parish church and other local churches. A high proportion of pupils come from professional and Christian families. There is a small percentage of pupils from other faith backgrounds. The school is over-subscribed.

Summary Judgement

Moseley Church of England School is a good Church school with many strengths.

Established strengths

- There is a very good, caring ethos based on Christian values
- There are very good links with local churches and the community
- Pupils' thoughts and ideas are valued and pupils are given good opportunities to express themselves in lessons
- Recently appointed Religious Education and Acts of Worship coordinators display enthusiastic leadership and a clear vision for the future

Focus for development

- Complete the review and further development of an effective plan for the delivery of Religious Education and Acts of Worship throughout the school
- Establish an effective system for monitoring pupils' progress so that all groups are effectively challenged to move forward in their knowledge and understanding of religion
- Continue to focus on improving the spiritual aspects of the school's ethos (e.g. by more display of religious material in the entrance hall, stairwell and corridor) so that pupils' spiritual development matches the high standards attained in their moral and social development

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

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners well. The school caters well for pupils of different abilities and from different cultural and faith backgrounds. All pupils are encouraged to respond in class and receive appropriate help to do so where necessary. The views of all pupils are valued. The school council has had a positive effect on improving the school environment. There are good displays of religious material including pupils' own work in classrooms. More use could be made of corridors, stairwells and the entrance hall to ensure the spiritual aspects of pupils' development are further enhanced. Pupils are happy to come to school and behave well. Pupils are well cared for by staff. Staff are good role models. There are good relationships between adults, between adults and pupils, amongst learners and between staff. Peer supporters and playground pals are good examples of how pupils care for each other. The involvement of the choir master from the local parish church in Assemblies, hymn practices and the teaching of music has a positive impact on the Christian ethos of the school.

What is the impact of Collective Worship on the school community?

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good. There is a strong commitment to a daily act of worship and to the involvement of local clergy and other representatives of local churches in weekly assemblies. Despite the present interregnum the school has continued to pursue and develop its strong links with the local church and encourages pupils to participate in church activities. Pupils are given opportunities to write their own prayers and to read these in classrooms and school assemblies. Books of children's prayers are displayed in classrooms. The school is sensitive to the beliefs of other faiths and pupils of other faiths readily share information about their faith with their peers. Acts of worship are Christian in character. There are opportunities for pupils of other faiths to reflect in their own way while participating. Acts of Worship are well planned and linked to Assembly themes and sometimes to religious education lessons in classrooms. There is some scope for pupils to further develop their understanding of the meanings of the Christian message, faith and prayer.

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 good. There is a clear commitment by staff and governors to promote the Christian character of the school. The local church and diocese are well represented on the governing body and governors are supportive of the school's policies. There is a strong commitment to involving parents and pupils in termly activities with the local Church. These include a Harvest Festival, carol services and nativity plays and a leavers' assembly in the Summer term. Efforts have been made to ensure that religious teaching is appropriate for the school and the views of staff are sought in bringing about improvements. Recently-appointed coordinators for religious education and Acts of Worship are working on improving existing plans for the delivery of religious education and for monitoring pupils' knowledge and understanding. There are currently no arrangements to visit places of worship other than the local church. There is a commitment towards increasing the school's involvement with the local church. In bringing about changes in policy the views of parents and governors are taken into account.

SIAS NOVEMBER 2005 Moseley CE VC Primary School, Birmingham, B13 9EH