

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Salford Priors Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

School Road,
Salford Priors,
Evesham.
WR11 8XD

Diocese: Coventry

LA: Warwickshire

Dates of inspection: 28 June 2006

Date of last inspection: 23 – 26 November 1999

School's Unique reference number: 125645

Headteacher: Mrs P. Daly.

Inspector's name and number: Mr John Riches. (NS 158)

School context

The school lies in the Warwickshire village of Salford Priors around seven miles north east of the Worcestershire town of Evesham. William Perkins, a local benefactor, founded the school in 1656. The oldest part of the current building was erected in 1860 with further additions in the 1960's and also in 2000 and 2003. The Headteacher has been in post since 1995. The age range is 4 – 11. The 101 pupils on roll come from generally supportive homes and live primarily in Salford Priors and nearby Abbots Salford, Bidford-on-Avon and Iron Cross. Free school meals take-up is 10. All pupils have English as their first language. With smaller than average cohorts, results of statutory tests do not show trends, but the school believes that overall pupil achievement is broadly in line with national averages.

Summary Judgement

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Salford Priors as a Church of England school is good. It has a good evolving Christian ethos and good caring environment.

Established strengths

- Enthusiastic, engaged pupils.
- A good, hard working governing body determined to take the school forward.
- A dedicated and determined Headteacher and staff.
- A very effective Parish Priest who ensures strong links with local churches.
- An enthusiastic and constructively critical parent body.

Focus for development

- Governors to appoint a member of the governing body to link and liaise with the worship co-ordinator.
- Collective worship policy - greater details to be inserted into R.E. themes.
- Single Integrated Development Plan and Governors Annual Report - short paragraphs to be inserted into future editions describing how Salford Priors' role as a church school is being fulfilled.
- To continue, when making future teaching appointments, to employ staff who uphold the Christian ethos in a positive and pro-active way.

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

The school, through its distinctive Christian character is good at meeting the needs of all learners.

The Mission Statement, prospectus and web site contain overtly Christian sentiments. Governors have succeeded with their aim to create a school that serves the community where Christian values are part of its fundamental framework. Personal relationships within the school are excellent. Parents state that the children are very well behaved. They believe that the school's staff, both teaching and non-teaching, act as good role models. They are pleased that staffing difficulties have been resolved and that the new, younger members of staff are so enthusiastic and are making such a positive impact on the children's learning. The parish priest is sure that the school is a place where the presence of God is encouraged. Children are proud, happy and secure. A "Buddy System" is in place. Older pupils were observed supporting younger children during breaks. Governors ensure that all learners feel

valued and special. Parents report that brighter children are well extended and pupils with learning difficulties given good special needs support. The school's Christian ethos supports the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all its pupils. As there are no ethnic minority children attending the school at present, visits are arranged to a Sikh, Hindu and Moslem places of worship in nearby Leamington Spa and Coventry. Visitors are challenged regarding their identity and CLV checks are systematic. Charities are supported enthusiastically. The school and community join each year to send over 100 shoeboxes packed with gifts for Eastern European children. Over £1000 was donated to the Indian Ocean tsunami appeal. The school environment is well used to encourage spiritual development. The parish church, described on the web site as an ancient grade one listed building, is used as a resource to study both the historic and contemporary expressions of Christian faith.

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

The impact of worship on the school community is good.

Worship forms an important part in the life of the school. A daily, varied programme of assemblies is arranged. The school meets statutory requirements. All teachers are thanked for leading assemblies. They bring objects to school to focus attention and supplement the school's resources. The Parish Priest, who has been in post for 11 years, makes an excellent contribution to the life of the school. He leads worship in school and at major festivals in St Matthew's Church where the whole school community gathers for worship and celebration. He believes that the school is a place where the presence of God is encouraged. Children's attitudes to Collective Worship are positive. Parents are pleased that assemblies are made so interesting. One parent reported that suddenly over breakfast as a direct result of a school assembly, her child asked a philosophical question about death and whether human beings are real or simply a dream. Learners' understanding of the Anglican faith and practice is underpinned by planning. In due course, more detail should be inserted into the Collective Worship policy document to aid those leading worship. A Diocesan Schools Officer supports the school and has recently organised a course for worship leaders. Inspiration is received by using the Redhill Christian Centre.

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.

The leadership and management of the school as a church school are good. After a number of difficult years the Governors and Headteacher are moving the school forward. They promote a school that serves its community and has a distinctive Christian vision. Parents understand the difficulties that the governing body has faced during the recent past but now state that leadership is excellent. They welcome the Headteacher's effective management style as a team leader. The appointment of younger teachers has been beneficial in rejuvenating the school. The school is good at seeking the views of stakeholders to evaluate progress. The School's Council makes suggestions for improvements. Its £100 budget has recently been spent on purchasing litter and compost bins. Governors' regular newsletters explain their plans for the school and invite parents to make constructive criticisms. The Headteacher issues bi-annual questionnaires asking for parental suggestions. One such suggestion highlighted the need for better facilities at breaks. The parents, via a very effective Parent Teacher Association, partly funded the improved playground facilities.

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