

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Sedgeberrow Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Main Street
SEDEBERROW
EVESHAM
Worcestershire
WR11 6UE

Diocese: Worcester

LA: Worcestershire

Dates of inspection: 3rd July 2006

Date of last inspection: November 1999

School's Unique reference number: 116848

Headteacher: Mrs. Fiona Smith

Inspector's name and number: Mr John Lawton 318

School context

Sedgeberrow is a village primary school with a well established reputation within the local community. The school draws its pupils from a variety of pre-school settings with most children joining the school in the Reception class. The pupils come from mainly White British backgrounds and the proportion of them who speak English as an additional language is much lower than average. The school is situated on an attractive site and the extensive grounds provide a valuable learning resource as well as an ideal play area.

Summary Judgement

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Sedgeberrow Voluntary Controlled First School as a Church of England school is good. Central to this is the effective way in which the school meets the needs of all its learners. The school's own self evaluation is secure.

Established strengths

- The outstanding leadership and vision of the Head Teacher
- The hard work and commitment of the staff
- The strong relationships within the school community where everyone is valued for the contribution they make
- The development of self-esteem and self-worth through a wide variety of learning opportunities
- The strong support given by governors and, in particular, by the elected Foundation Governors

Focus for development

- Develop the involvement of the Foundation Governors in the National Society Toolkit for the process of self evaluation
- Consider how best to introduce a better focus for worship within the constraints of having to share the hall as a community facility

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 in meeting the needs of all learners

The school makes good provision to meet the needs of all its learners through careful attention to the breadth of opportunities and high expectations of all its learners. This has a very positive impact and pupils feel valued and secure and is reflected in the many and varied achievement awards won by the school. Relationships within the school community and with stakeholders are very good. The School Council provides pupils with good opportunities to raise and resolve issues and children talk of their school with pride. Pupils understand their responsibilities within the school community and their behaviour is good. Value and respect for others' cultures and beliefs is shown and this results in an open and positive atmosphere where learner's curiosity and excitement about the whole world is encouraged. The school works

very well with the village community and many charities and parents recognise the value of the school as a Church school.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good

Acts of Collective Worship are held daily, are highly valued and form an integral part of school life. The policy for Collective Worship is good and acts of worship are well planned and inclusive. Themes are good and sufficiently flexible to include current school, national and international issues as well as the major Christian festivals. Good involvement of the learners in Collective Worship impacts upon their learning through music, arts, drama and literacy and is a central element in their spiritual and moral development. The school honours the Anglican tradition, pupils feel valued and included and show a caring Christian attitude to each other. The school makes use of St Mary the Virgin church both for worship and as a valuable educational resource. There are a variety of approaches to worship which stimulate and give time for reflection and prayer and the support of the elected Foundation Governors in leading worship is very good. The limitations on the use of the hall, since it also serves as a community facility, have made it difficult for the school to provide a suitable spiritual focus. Parental comments show that they believe Collective Worship plays an important role in the life of the school.

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 quality of leadership and management of the Head Teacher is outstanding. Her vision and Christian commitment are very strong and her effective leadership ensures that the distinctive Christian character of the school is maintained and developed. All staff work very hard and make significant contributions to the development of learners and the vision and values of the school. The quality of relationships between staff and learners is a cornerstone of the school's work and Christian values. The appointed Foundation Governors show strong support for and share in the leading of acts of worship but the current involvement of the incumbent is more limited. Communications between the school and parents is good and parents and other stakeholders are regularly consulted and their views considered.

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