

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

West Pennard Church of England VC Primary

Church Lane
Glastonbury
Somerset
BA6 8NT

Diocese of Bath and Wells

Local Authority: Somerset
Date of Inspection: 19 January 2006
Date of last Inspection: 09-11 October 2000
School's unique reference no: 123780
Name of Headteacher: Mrs Ann Scourfield
Inspector's name & NS no: Jane Whitcombe 226

School Context

The school is set in beautiful surroundings in the village of West Pennard but many pupils travel to school from the surrounding area. Although the proportion of pupils designated with learning difficulties and disabilities is about the national average, no pupils have statements of special educational need.

Summary Judgement

West Pennard Church of England Primary School is a very good church school with many outstanding aspects ranging across its spiritual, moral, social and cultural life. There is an overwhelming sense of friendliness and welcome from staff and pupils alike who profess a sense of enthusiasm, accomplishment, constructive curiosity and genuine care and concern for others in the school community. Relationships within the school and between the school, parish and village community are firmly rooted in the Christian values that are evident to anyone who visits the school.

Established Strengths

- The Christian ethos of the school underlies the values and aspirations of everyone in the school community
- The outstanding quality of leadership from the Headteacher, RE and Collective Worship co-ordinator, and governors
- The value placed on every member of the school community
- The excellent relationships between all those in the school community
- The very good relationships between the school and village community

Focus for development

- To continue to strengthen links with the parish church
- To continue to strengthen pupils' understanding of cultural differences

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

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, meets the needs of all its learners in an outstanding way.

It is evident that a Christian ethos based on Anglican structures and values underpins all of school life. The provision for all pupils is given careful consideration and this has a positive effect on the achievement of pupils who are confident and feel affirmed and valued. The school council enables pupils to raise issues and take responsibility for resolving them within the school community. Achievement is acknowledged and celebrated. Pupils are

encouraged to share their thoughts and ideas in a caring and supportive environment. The enrichment day adds a further dimension to the school's curriculum which allows pupils to develop basic skills and experience a range of subjects and activities.

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

The impact of collective worship on the school is outstanding.

Collective Worship is central to the life of the school. It is evident that pupils enjoy worship and behave in an appropriate fashion. The spiritual life of pupils is reinforced by prayer, not only during Collective Worship, but also in the classroom as was evident from displays. The hymn singing was of a very high standard and apparently enjoyed by all. The excellent links with two teams of local clergy ensure that there is a strong Anglican presence with worship being inspiringly led by one of the teams every week. The RE and Collective Worship co-ordinator has developed an excellent system to ensure the quality and relevance of collective worship. There is a good range of resources and artefacts to support worship.

How effective is the religious education?

Religious education is good.

Religious education is recognised as being of particular importance in a church school. This is reflected in the scrutiny of work, the monitoring of teaching and learning and the resourcing of religious education. The religious education syllabus is broad and balanced and follows the 'Awareness, Mystery and Value' syllabus. It provides pupils with a good knowledge of Christianity. Pupils are able to discuss issues of faith with confidence. The quality of teaching and learning is good and the pupils are stimulated by enthusiastic teaching.

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, staff and foundation governors provide excellent leadership of this Voluntary Controlled school with a clear direction and purpose. The chair of governors is passionate about the school's Christian foundation and all staff are committed to create a positive Christian ethos for the school. The opinions of all members of the school community are recognized and valued. Parents feel that the school has a special Christian quality which equips pupils to face the world and provides them with a well rounded education. The leadership team has created an environment where pupils enjoy coming to school and obviously delight in learning. This is led by an excellent headteacher whose vision is an inspiration to all in the school community.

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