

Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Callow End Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School,

Upton Road,
Callow End,
Worcester
WR2 4TE

Diocese: Worcester

Local authority: Worcestershire

Dates of inspection: 8th January 2009.

Date of last inspection: November 2005.

School's unique reference number: 116789

Headteacher: Mrs Sue Parker

Inspector's name and number: Janet Nesbitt 75

School context

Callow End C of E Primary currently has 76 pupils on role of almost exclusively white British origin. The number of SEN pupils is slightly below average and the numbers on free school meals well below average. Pupil mobility is however above average. The school has recently achieved satisfactory overall in their OFSTED Inspection. Many good aspects were noted.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Callow End as a Church of England school are satisfactory.

Callow End is a satisfactory church school with the potential for very good improvement. Its Christian vision is strengthening rapidly as the new headteacher seeks to develop this with her staff and governors. Parents recognise the strengths of the school in the care it provides for all pupils. Standards are now being challenged effectively across all aspects of the curriculum and achievement is improving well.

Established strengths

- There is a clear commitment from all members of the school community to work in collaboration and co-operation to achieve success and raise the profile of Callow End.
- Pupils are very well cared for. They develop good levels of independence and confidence in this secure environment and they are supported effectively by its strengthening Christian ethos.

Focus for development

- Embed a series of monitoring activities into the newly structured collective worship scheme in order to establish strong evidence of the positive impact activities have on learners.
- Carry out policy revision. Identify how worship will be evaluated to further strengthen it.
- Involve all staff and governors in the strategic review of the school's vision and the ways the school promotes itself as a church school with a Christian foundation. Consider how to evaluate the success school leaders have in embedding this vision fully.

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

Children feel happy and secure in school. Parents confirm that pupils enjoy school and are eager to be involved in the wide range of activities provided. All their needs are well met. The parent of a more able pupil praised the accelerated provision offered to her child. Teaching assistants are well deployed in providing good support to pupils with special needs. All learners' ideas are valued and acted upon. The school council and worship committee provide opportunities for children to enhance many aspects of school life and

spiritual development. There are robust systems in place to recognise and celebrate a wide range of achievement. Well-being and safety are very effectively promoted. Parents praise the independence and confidence their children acquire at the school. They identify how this supports their future education at high school. The quality of care and consideration between older and younger pupils is frequently observed throughout the school day. Good relationships are always encouraged. A significant level of charitable fund raising assists the pupils in demonstrating compassion for the wider community. Older pupils show a well developed awareness of moral values, social concern and have good spiritual understanding. This has been fostered throughout their years at Callow End. The Christian values and ethos provide an effective foundation for these aspects to flourish. Children show a developing awareness of other cultures and faiths. The school supports this by its good provision in religious education. Adults are sensitive to the individual needs of all learners. Conflict and disagreement is dealt with in a timely and fair manner by adults in a spirit of forgiveness and reconciliation. Staff and pupils recognise the importance of Christian values in their school. Good levels of collaboration and co-operation are evident. In one challenging situation very supportive help was forthcoming from a number of colleagues. The quality of public display supports spiritual development well. The reflective spaces being developed are well used and appreciated by pupils and staff. Although displays of work carried out during religious education, [RE], are limited, foundation governors do appreciate the greater emphasis on Christian artefacts displayed in school.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is satisfactory.

Collective worship is clearly central in the life of the school. A recent review of collective worship has positively enhanced the opportunities for all pupils to reflect more fully on Christian values. Observation shows that children apply these to their actions and behaviour. Acts of worship are well planned and stimulating. Pupils enjoy writing prayer for them and regularly participating in them. Pupils participate well as worshippers showing reverence for the occasion. One child said "We're glad to be here". Behaviour is respectful and engagement is good. Learners comment that they like worship and that it does have an impact on their lives. The recently introduced reflection time, when children talk about the content and meaning of collective worship supports spiritual development well. More opportunities for silent times of thought have also been recently introduced. Children identify that prayer is important and meaningful. They use the Lord's Prayer frequently. Some children can express how worship is meaningful to them personally and parents are positive about the changes made to acts of worship. Opportunities for them to attend collective worship in church and in school are well supported. Major Christian festivals are celebrated and plans are well advanced for the celebration of other Anglican events. Links with the local church are positive and strengthening. The vicar is supporting the new headteacher well and is greatly appreciating the increased collaboration initiated by the school. All teachers attend acts of worship and participate in leading it. It is a strongly Christian event but includes other faiths and cultures in sensitive ways.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory.

The new headteacher demonstrates personal clarity of vision. She is working hard to promote the school's distinctive Christian foundation. There are plans to review the vision with all staff and governors. Changes made to the focus of collective worship by the co-ordinator and identified in the school development plan, are providing greater support to the Christian ethos the school wishes to promote. Foundation governors are satisfactorily supporting the future vision of school leaders. Their recent involvement in the self evaluation process has significantly raised awareness of their role in promoting the school's distinctiveness. The headteacher is actively developing stronger links and promoting the school within the local community. The school has a strong partnership with a school in the Gambia. Teachers are challenged to further raise standards by careful monitoring and evaluation of all subjects. The RE co-ordinator has very strong subject knowledge and is well qualified to support all staff in monitoring achievement in religious education. Opportunities for training have been well received. Governors, staff and headteacher have benefited and they are using the knowledge effectively to initiate changes. Parents and learners speak positively about their opportunities to contribute to school improvement and

their ideas being valued and acted upon. Pupils talk confidently about their role in making the school a better place. Parents are very satisfied with the sense of family the school promotes and believe it has a positive influence on the children's progress.

SIAS Report : January 2009.Callow End CE VC Primary School, Upton Road, Callow End, Worcester. WR2 4TE