

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Friskney All Saints Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Church End,
Friskney,
Boston,
Lincolnshire
PE22 8RD

Diocese: Lincoln

Local authority: Lincolnshire

Dates of inspection: 5 July 2007

Date of last inspection: December 2002

School's unique reference number: 120620

Headteacher: Mrs Yvonne Shaw

Inspector's name and number: Meg Hackney 198

School context

Friskney All Saints CE Aided Primary School is a medium sized rural primary school located in an attractive village setting. Almost all pupils are of white British heritage. The school has very close links with the church and local community.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Friskney Primary School as a Church of England school is outstanding

Christian values and beliefs firmly underpin the entire life and work of the school. This supports a very happy and highly successful establishment where there is genuine care for everyone as an individual. The spiritual ethos has a strong impact on the school community.

Established strengths

- The leadership and vision of the headteacher is central to the school's strong Christian ethos and exceptionally caring environment.
- The commitment of staff, governors and clergy towards enriching pupils' spiritual and moral development within the school's Christian context.
- The very close links with the church makes an excellent contribution to pupils' knowledge and understanding of Christianity.
- Pupils' excellent behaviour and the very warm relationships throughout the school.
- The excellent use of the environment to support learning and spiritual development.
- The high status given to religious education and the positive integration of the subject across the broader curriculum.

Focus for development

- To maintain the strong Christian vision for the outstanding work of the school

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

Voluntary The school is an extremely welcoming and happy place where Christian values are deeply embedded. Pupils of all ages and abilities recognise that their school shows them a great deal of love and care and they speak confidently about everyone feeling valued and special. Pupils with learning difficulties are very well nurtured and this enables them to be

fully integrated into the whole range of learning activities. Pupils are very proud of their school and because of this they want to work hard and achieve the best they can. Their behaviour and attitude are excellent both in classrooms and during collective worship. This reflects the importance placed on religious education and personal and social development which underpins all areas of the curriculum. Displays around the school and regular opportunities for discussion helps pupils to learn about other cultures and to respect the beliefs and traditions of other faiths. Pupils value the rewards they receive for good work and helpful actions towards others. They look forward eagerly to the weekly celebrations of their success. Christian principles support all aspects of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education and pupils make excellent progress in all these areas of their education. They enjoy taking special responsibility for tasks around the school, and the School Council is proactive in sharing pupils' ideas for improvements and the school's development. Excellent use is made of the local environment and pupils benefit from visits to the church and using the school grounds which supports their spiritual development and experience very well.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

Collective worship is an integral and extremely important part of the school day. Although not an ideal situation, the restricted hall space is overcome by holding daily worship in separate key stages and whole school worship regularly in the church. Both acts of collective worship observed were joyful occasions and of a very high quality. Listening to music and sharing the Peace created a strong sense of community. This was further enriched by pupils' excellent behaviour and attitude towards worship. The quality of singing was outstanding. Pupils showed real enjoyment in taking part and many continued to sing as they left the hall. They joined in confidently with the prayers and time for reflection. Pupils of all ages listened exceptionally well even though their enthusiasm and anticipation was tangible. Older pupils showed a great deal of respect for environmental issues and the need for recycling to preserve the world while the younger children were enthralled by the story of the Creation. The themes for worship are varied and thoughtfully planned to reflect the Church's Year and a wide range of moral and social issues. Topics are used very well to extend pupils' understanding of Christian values and moral responsibilities. Stories are well linked to religious education and to personal, social and health education (PSHE) and this helps pupils to appreciate the values of other cultures, faiths and traditions.

The effectiveness of the religious education is outstanding

Teaching and learning in religious education is outstanding. The subject has a high status in the school and underpins all other areas of the curriculum. Pupils in both key stages make very good progress in their knowledge and understanding of Christianity and develop a clear respect for other world-faiths and cultures. Standards of work seen in both key stages are outstanding. The improved system of assessing and recording pupils' progress in religious education is well maintained. The strong links with themes for worship and PSHE make an excellent contribution to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness. The excellent range of learning resources is used well to support different topics. Teachers are very skilful at creating a secure environment for religious education and encouraging a wealth of thoughtful discussion and shared experience. Lessons are very well planned to interest and inspire pupils. For example, pupils in Year 1 demonstrated an exceptional ability to recall their knowledge of Bible stories and religious artefacts. Teachers' questions are well focussed to develop pupils' vocabulary and extend their ideas. Pupils enjoy religious education and the subject's impact on their development is apparent in their excellent behaviour and positive attitude demonstrated towards all other school activities.

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

The headteacher has a strong personal Christian vision towards her leadership of a church school. She is extremely well supported by the commitment of staff, governors and clergy in successfully achieving a shared vision. Together they are an excellent and powerful team who value and support the school's Christian foundation and close partnership with the church. The school is an extremely friendly and caring establishment where every pupil, parent, and member of staff genuinely matters. The Christian Aims and Values contained in

the prospectus and other documentation are being positively lived out in the life of the school. The Christian ethos is strong and the wide range of stimulating displays of pictures and artefacts confirm the school's Christian character. The leadership and management is firmly focussed on helping every pupil to achieve their full potential within a secure and exciting learning environment. The embedded Christian principles which pupils respect and value make a strong contribution to their progress. The school maintains excellent links with the Diocese.

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