

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### **Kinlet Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School,**

School Lane,  
Kinlet,  
Bewdley  
Worcestershire  
DY12 3BG

#### **Diocese: Hereford**

LEA: Shropshire

Dates of inspection: Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2007

Date of last inspection: 29<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> March 2004

School's Unique reference number: 123480

Name of Headteacher: Mrs Jayne Brown

Inspector's name: Mrs Sandie Johnson 229

### **School context**

Kinlet C of E Primary School is situated close to the Worcestershire border. The 35 pupils come from the village and surrounding area. Whilst the proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals is below average, the number of children with learning difficulties is higher than national norms. The current head teacher was appointed in May 2006 following an uncertain inter-regnum and an unsettled period for the school as a whole. Kinlet Parish Church is a considerable distance from the school.

### **The distinctiveness and effectiveness of as a Church of England school are good**

Kinlet School provides a secure, happy environment with an ethos built on Christian values putting pupils' personal development and well being at its heart. Of this it should be justifiably proud. It is led in a realistic collegiate style by a headteacher with Christian commitment and vision. The school plays an important role in the community and has good links with the Parish and local Christian community.

The school's ability to formally self- evaluate its effectiveness as a Church school is emerging.

### **Established strengths**

- The hard work and dedication to the well being of the children together with the strong Christian Ethos, which upholds the school's Mission Statement.
- The commendable emphasis placed on healthy lifestyles, which is clearly apparent throughout the school.
- The strong commitment the school shows to the care of the "whole child" and the
- inclusive nature of its education.

### **Focus for development**

- To add the dimension of evaluating the impact of Collective Worship to the annual questionnaire sent to parents.
- To create a questionnaire for pupils to evaluate the overall impact of being a Church of England school
- Working together, staff and governors to undertake self evaluation activities taking into account guidance from National Society.

**The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Kinlet Primary School as a Church of England school are good**

Good provision is made to meet the needs of all learners, especially those who have special educational needs. Pupils feel valued, special and positive. Parents speak highly of the kind, happy, calm atmosphere, referring to the staff as “*extraordinarily special people*” The school council provides good opportunities for pupils to consider concerns and represent others’ views. Pupils speak of the school as happy, welcoming and secure. The school emphasises a healthy lifestyle and “healthy eating “. The Lord’s Prayer is known and liturgical materials are introduced when relevant. Each teaching area has a “special place” where pupils and staff take time together for reflection, thinking, stillness and silence or sharing which ever is appropriate. Displays reflect recent work in R.E. links with the Parish Church, wider world faiths and current social issues.

**The Impact of collective worship on the school community is satisfactory with good elements**

The collective worship policy states the aims and objectives clearly and concisely. A planned programme related to the major Christian festivals and values, made relevant for the wide age range present, provides a sound basis for the pupils’ moral and social development. Pupils talk of collective worship times having been helpful to them personally and consider it to be an important part of school life. The recent introduction of “Assembly Partners” is proving to be a valuable added dimension enhancing the experience for both older and younger pupils alike. With good opportunities for involvement and interaction the children are attentive, responsive and well behaved. Links with the local parish church are strengthened by the Rector’s regular visits. Parents attend and enjoy the services held in Kinlet church to mark special occasions. However , distance precludes more frequent use by the school. Collective Worship fulfils statutory requirements and the importance of evaluation both by adults and pupils is stated in the school’s Policy dated 1997.

**The leadership and management of the school as a church school is satisfactory with good elements**

The leadership and staff reflect the school’s Christian foundation and encourage links with the local Parish Churches. The headteacher is bringing direction and vision for long term development of Christian distinctiveness which is” *being increasingly woven into the fabric of life here.*” The quality of relationships between staff and pupils is seen as pivotal in all aspects of the school’s work and should be celebrated. All adults are sensitive and supportive. They are good role models ensuring that pupils’ moral and social development in a Christian context is sound and that children grow in respect for themselves and others. Support for collective worship is an important part of school life helping to provide an environment where pupils may grow spiritually. Religious education ( R.E.) is a respected subject which teachers successfully relate to everyday experience. Clearly governors are aware of the school’s Christian foundation and purpose. The recommendations in the previous denominational inspection report have been partially fulfilled. The leadership and staff at Kinlet school do not wish to complete the self evaluation guidance in its present form as they consider it to be unnecessarily long, complicated and time consuming. However, the headteacher is aware that governors, parents and learners need to be increasingly involved in the school’s self evaluation process.