

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Newton Regis Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Austrey Lane,
Newton Regis,
Staffs.
B79 0NL

Diocese: Birmingham

LA: Warwickshire

Date of inspection: 12th September & 11th October 2006

Date of last inspection: March 2000

School's Unique Reference Number: 125643

Names of Joint Headteachers: Ms C Barnard and Mrs M Wraight

Inspector's name & National Society Number: Mr A S Brown No.256

Context of the school

Newton Regis CofE Primary School is unusual as there are joint Headteachers sharing responsibility for the management of the School. One of the Headteachers has been at the School for 17 years. A new nursery opened at the School in 2005. The school has 120 pupils on roll and is set in a rural environment within walking distance of the church. The time gap between the visits was in order to meet with the two Headteachers when they were in School together.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Newton Regis as a Church of England school are outstanding

Newton Regis Primary School is an outstanding school. The Governors and the joint Headteachers have a clear vision of what it means to be a church school, particularly a voluntary controlled church school, in a rural area. The management team is a strength offering, as it does, a dual perspective on how the Christian life of pupils and staff at the school can be enhanced. The relationship with the local church is good with some opportunity for further development and pupils should have a greater involvement in the planning of worship.

Established strengths

- The outstanding quality of leadership and management:
- The firm commitment of the School to the spiritual life of students and staff:
- The distinctive and open Christian character of the School:
- The quality of Collective Worship and its impact on the life of the School.

Focus for development

- Continue to explore ways of developing stronger links with the local Church and the Diocese:
- Continue to maintain and enhance the quality of collective worship and the spiritual life of the School through greater pupil involvement in planning.

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

The Christian character of Newton Regis is immediately obvious on entry and there are Christian symbols in places throughout the School. The Governing Body has a critical but positive and affirming overview of the Christian character of the School. The governors interviewed were particularly thoughtful, encouraging and articulate about that aspect of the School. Their critical vision for the distinctive character of the School was in direct agreement with the joint management team.

Pupils enjoyed being at the School, they liked the friendly atmosphere and the way in which it was easy to make and retain friendships. They were appreciative of the

teachers and the after school activities.

Pupils are aware Newton Regis is a Church school and enjoy those distinctive aspects of a church school that play a part in their school and spiritual experience. The School provides pupils with a solid foundation for understanding the Christian life and the importance of belief, values and worship. There are good links with the Church through the Foundation Governors and the Incumbent, though there continues to be scope for further development.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

The opportunities for collective worship at Newton Regis School are outstanding. The acts of worship attended were both excellent with pupils playing an active part and being fully involved at all times. Records are meticulously kept and worship is carefully planned, though it would be appropriate to formalise the opportunities for pupils to share in the planning of worship. Worship in Newton Regis School provides a focal point of the pupils' spiritual experience although the displays on the walls in common areas and classrooms provide outstanding examples of the pupils' imagination, creativity and spiritual development.

The School offers, throughout the pupils' time in school, an insight into formal and informal forms of worship, by providing an excellent environment for pupils' spiritual development. There is time for reflection with pupils singing, participating, learning prayers and generally developing a familiarity with the major events and celebrations of the Christian Year. Pupils will leave Newton Regis having experienced something of the variety and nature of worship in the broad Christian tradition as well as more particular aspects of Anglicanism.

No pupils are withdrawn from collective worship.

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

The Headteachers share a clear and agreed vision of what a Church school should be and are both persuasive and effective at putting their vision into practice. Their relationship is a strength of the School, as they have to work closely together creating a leadership team that is lively, thoughtful, and firm while being relaxed, enabling and encouraging. This, in turn, ensures a unified and mutually supportive staff. The manner in which the two of them talk about the School, as a Church school, is very impressive and they clearly complement each other's skills and attitudes very well indeed.

The Headteachers and the whole staff work in a close and purposeful partnership providing an excellent Christian framework for this outstanding Church school. All of this takes place in an open and non-oppressive environment where Gospel values of loving God, one's neighbour and oneself, together with a clear educational vision, lie at the heart of the School. It is a church school deeply committed to the pupils and the wider communities it serves so effectively.

SIAS report September/October 2006 Newton Regis Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School Austrey Lane, Newton Regis, Staffs. B79 0NL