



Diocese of Chichester

Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools

Inspection Report

Name of school: Nutley CE Primary School

Address: High Street
Nutley, Uckfield
East Sussex, TN22 3NW

Name of inspector: Ruth M Waller

NS inspector's number: 441

Date of inspection: 11 and 12 October 2006

The inspection of denominational education and collective worship in the school was carried out in accordance with Section 48 of the Education Act 2005

Information about the school

Unique reference number:	114517
Type of school:	Primary
Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Number on roll:	97
Age range of pupils:	4 - 11
Gender of pupils:	Mixed
LEA:	East Sussex
Name of chair of governors:	Raymond Kennedy
Name of headteacher:	Amanda Gander-Miller
Date of previous inspection:	February 2001

Description of the school

Nutley CE Primary School is a village school with pupils coming from the village and surrounding area. The school is popular and over-subscribed. The pupils are currently organised into four classes.

Over recent years the school has been enhanced by major building developments which include a new classroom for the youngest children, an ICT room, a hall and kitchen, an entrance area, a re-furbished classroom for the older pupils, a new library, multi-media centre with additional teaching space as well as new toilet facilities. These developments have had a significant impact on the life of the school, vastly improving the provision for both pupils and staff. The school achieved a DfES Achievement Award in 2003 and Artsmark Gold for the second time in 2006. The school was also awarded a Silver Gilt medal in the schools section of 'Britain in Bloom' in 2006 for the quality and development of the garden.

Key for inspection grades

1	Outstanding
2	Good
3	Satisfactory
4	Inadequate

Summary judgement

Nutley CE Primary is a good church school that reflects its Christian ethos well. This ethos permeates all relationships within the school community resulting in pupils and adults feeling valued and special. Pupils feel safe and flourish in their learning by being well supported and encouraged. Collective worship is well led and central to the life of the school.

The school is well managed by the headteacher who leads the staff team very effectively. The staff are committed to their work and share the vision of the school that each child is important by offering a broad curriculum with a special focus on the Arts. Every child has the opportunity to succeed and contribute to the life of the school. Governors support the headteacher and play an active role in the leadership and management of the school, as a church school. Links with the local church and community are strong. Parents too, are supportive of the school and contribute to its success.

Established strengths

The strong Christian ethos of the school in which all pupils are nurtured and highly valued.

The very good quality of the relationships within the school, and the dedication, commitment and hard work of the staff who operate very effectively as a team.

The excellent links with the local church and community.

Focus for development

To begin the self-evaluation process of the school, as a Church school in order to recognise current good practice and clearly identify areas for further development.

To develop and implement a whole school policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development within a Church school context, including links with the curriculum.

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

The school makes good provision to meet the needs of all learners. The value of the individual child is evident in the daily life of the school and contributes positively to all children being successful learners. Pupils interviewed spoke of enjoying their school and assemblies, feeling safe and knowing what to do if they had a concern. Behaviour management within the school is very good and pupils appreciate the clear reward systems that are in place for effort and attainment. They especially enjoy Golden time and the challenge of gaining a 'Tidy Cloakroom' certificate. There is a strong School Council who play an active role in improving their school. It meets regularly and also reports to governors.

The school has developed strong links with the local and wider community and pupils are encouraged to consider the needs of others. Pupils participate in fund-raising events for various charities e.g. 'Starfish', and by taking part in community events such as carol-singing at Homes for the Elderly. Cross-cultural links have been formed with a school in Cambodia and this has also involved a group visit. The positive development of the school as being distinctly Christian has clearly led to the good relationships that are present throughout the school and wider community. This supportive environment enables pupils to be both nurtured and nourished, enabling them to develop in all aspects of their learning and well-being.

Grade: 2

What is the impact of Collective Worship on the school community?

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good. Acts of collective worship are of good quality and central to the life of the school. Planning procedures are in place, although evaluation needs to become a more integral part of this process. There was evidence of Christian symbols in the main entrance and the hall including crosses, a School Creed, an assembly theme display and an attractive banner illustrating Creation. The quality of worship would benefit from developing a reflective/worship area in each classroom and raise the children's awareness of spirituality across the curriculum.

Pupils demonstrate positive attitudes during collective worship. There is a high expectation of good behaviour. Pupils enter the hall silently whilst listening to recorded music playing. They listen attentively to stories and information and answer questions appropriately. Pupils join in with a range of songs and hymns. Learning the Lord's Prayer and some collective responses would, however, enable greater pupil participation during worship. The school clearly follows the Anglican tradition and collective worship themes incorporate the annual church cycle. Celebration of the main Christian festivals and links with the local parish church are very strong with services held in the church to which everyone is invited. The Vicar and Foundation Governors visit the school regularly and play an active part in collective worship. Collective worship supports and sustains the Christian ethos of the school.

Grade: 2

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 are very effective. The headteacher demonstrates good leadership skills which nurture pupils and staff. Staff are clear about what is expected of them and have opportunities to contribute to the running of the school. New staff are made aware of the importance of the school's Christian ethos. The school's Church status clearly permeates throughout the life of the school. The school prospectus contains the Christian vision and aims of the school. New parents are made aware of the Christian ethos of the school and are made to feel welcome within its community. Parents spoke highly of the school's leadership and management, particularly that of the headteacher.

The governors have a sound overview of the school and are very supportive of both the headteacher and the whole school community. Governors spend time in school, attend assemblies and give pastoral care where needed. The effectiveness of the monitoring by the governors of the school as a Church school is satisfactory. After a period of immensely successful activity developing the buildings and the school, the headteacher, staff and governing body would benefit from a time of reflection and self-evaluation as to their distinctive and effective role as a Church school.

Grade: 2

The school meets the statutory requirement for Collective Worship	Yes
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Judgement Recording Form

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Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Number on roll:	97
Type of school:	Primary

Rating 1-4

How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all its learners?	2
What is the impact of Collective Worship on the school community?	2
How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a Church school?	2
The school meets the statutory requirement for Collective Worship	Yes