

# National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

## **Sandown Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

Grove Road  
Sandown  
PO36 9BQ

### **Diocese: Portsmouth**

Local authority: Isle of Wight  
Date of inspection: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
School's unique reference number: 118186  
Headteacher: Mrs D. Christopher  
Inspector's name and number: Harry Kirby No. 26

### **School context**

Sandown C.E. primary is a larger than average 4-9 First School situated on the outskirts of Sandown. The proportion of pupils eligible for free school meals is above the national average. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties is slightly below the national average and the proportion of pupils from minority ethnic groups is small, but increasing. The school is currently involved in the re-organisation and re-structuring of the education system on the Isle of Wight. Owing to a sudden bereavement in the family, the Headteacher was not in school at the time of the inspection.

### **The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Sandown C.E. Primary as a Church of England school are good.**

Sandown Church of England Primary School is a good church school. Its caring Christian ethos is created by the commitment and dedication of all involved in the school. Both learners and adults thrive and flourish in its welcoming, nurturing environment.

### **Established strengths**

- Vision and dedication of Headteacher in leading school community to develop the nurturing Christian ethos.
- Commitment to preparing learners for life in a multicultural society.
- Strong team spirit aimed at enabling learners to achieve their potential.
- Involvement of learners in local churches and the wider community.

### **Focus for development**

- Establish more formal monitoring procedures to enable Foundation Governors to fulfil their role, especially in matters identified in the Church School SEF; this to include the consideration of a school-based Eucharist service.
- Develop more overt evidence of the school's Anglican heritage in the school brochure and documentation.
- Develop the involvement of learners in the planning and delivery of worship.

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

**Grade 1**

Learners feel valued and special. They are confident that their views, which are regularly sought, are valued and acted upon. They appreciate the wide range of after-school clubs, available to the whole school, which enable them to pursue and develop their varied interests. The enveloping Christian ethos nurtures them so that they are confident and secure in their individuality. A six year old, in a "Friendship group", stated "God made us all different. He meant us not to be the same!" Learners relate well to each other and celebrate each others' successes. This is reflected in the calm, respectful way that they move around their school, putting the needs others before their own. The older children support younger or those less able, welcoming and assimilating those recent arrivals from other lands who do not speak English. The school develops a multicultural awareness in learners, and prepares them for life in society through a wide range of resources. Visitors from China, Switzerland, Bulgaria and Japan, Chile, Nigeria and India have worked with learners to share with them their cultures and way of life. Learners appreciate their school and are proud of it. Setting for some areas of the curriculum, withdrawal groups for learners with a low self-esteem or difficulties in relating to others, circle time, all contribute to meeting the needs, emotionally, spiritually and academically of all learners. It is important to note that the needs of adults in the school are also being met by its Christian ethos.

**The impact of collective worship on the school community is good**

**Grade 2**

Worship is very important in the life of the school and is appreciated by learners. Worship "helps us to know how to get on better with each other". "It makes us aware of the needs of other people. We raise money for charities that help people who don't have what we have". Themes are well planned on a termly basis and form part of a three-year cycle. They are organised round the calendar of Church festivals. It takes place daily in a variety of formats, whole school, key stage and class "assemblies" meet the needs of learners and adults alike. All staff attend whole school worship. They appreciated this opportunity to emphasise and consolidate the whole-school feeling of one-ness, or unity. They also appreciate the time to be still and reflective. The Incumbent leads worship on a regular, fortnightly basis. Learners appreciate his lively and imaginative inputs. He is also involved in school worship which takes place at St. John's and Christ Church at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and end of year. Learners are made aware of their place in the wider Anglican Communion through their involvement with the Diocesan Leavers' Service. Themes and messages in worship are developed and consolidated in RE and PSHE lessons. Worship continues, through prayer, at lunchtime and at the end of the school day. Key Stage 2 learners contribute to a book of their own written prayers, which are selected and used at the end of the day. In these prayers the dominant theme is giving thanks to God for friends, school and classmates. Religious Education plays a similar important role in school life. Learners expressed their enjoyment of the subject. The subject is well resourced with artefacts, literature and posters. Christianity is the focus of most of the RE curriculum, with Judaism, Islam also being studied. The draft version of the New Agreed Syllabus has been quickly adopted and assimilated by the enthusiastic staff. Well-prepared lessons, observed in Years 1 and 4, taught with creativity and enthusiasm, were memorable to both learners and the inspector!

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

**Grade 2**

The quality of leadership and management manifests itself in the strength of team spirit experienced in the school. Adults and learners treat each other with courtesy, respect and consideration. Staff appreciate the feeling of equality and being valued, regardless of status and role valuing the mutual support and care they receive in the school. This is reflected in the fact that the SMT and Chair of Governors decided that this inspection should still proceed

in the unavoidable absence of the Headteacher, so that she would not have it to attend to on her return to school! The "Open House" staff meetings give all employees the opportunity to air their views and concerns. The Headteacher presents a good role model to her colleagues and sets the example in how all in the school should relate to each other within its Christian values. Learners' high standards of behaviour and caring attitudes reflect the attitudes presented by the adults. Governors actively support the Headteacher and staff. They monitor the curriculum and have specific roles as critical friends however Foundation Governors have not developed their specific roles in monitoring Worship, RE and ethos. The incumbent plays a key role in school life. As well as leading worship, he contributes to the RE in the school as learners visit the local churches. He "models" wedding and baptism services for classes. Learners are well integrated into their local community and the community is deeply involved in the school. It is a vibrant, outgoing partner in its community. All stakeholders are consulted as the School Development Plan is generated. Members of the congregation are on a rota of volunteers to play the piano in Hymn Practice; local people are involved in the development of the school's sensory garden (incorporating students from one of the Island's Special Schools), they are also involved in the school's activities in Sandown carnival and the school's fundraising with the Rotary Club. Learners' artwork is displayed at Sandown station and learners perform dance and music at residential homes for the elderly. The learners contributed to the "Sandown Visitors' Trail".

SIAS report September 2008 Sandown C. E. Primary School PO36 9BQ

## Inspection Judgements

The school meets the statutory requirements for Collective Worship	y
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<b>The school meets the statutory requirements for Religious Education</b>	<b>y</b>
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**How well does the school, through its distinctive character, meet the needs of all learners?**

**Grade**

To what extent do all learners feel valued and special?	<b>1</b>
How well do the school's Christian values impact on learners and enable them to flourish as individuals?	<b>1</b>
How well does the Christian ethos support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all learners, whether they are Christian, of other faiths and of none?	<b>1</b>
How are Christian values evident in the relationships between staff and learners and between staff?	<b>1</b>
How well is the school environment used to encourage spiritual development?	<b>2</b>

**How effective is the worshipping experience provided by the school?**

How important is worship in the life of the school and how is this demonstrated?	<b>2</b>
How positive are the attitudes to collective worship?	<b>1</b>
To what extent do learners and staff of all faiths derive inspiration and spiritual growth and affirmation from worship?	<b>2</b>
How well does collective worship develop learners' understanding of Anglican faith and practice?	<b>2</b>

**How effective is the Religious Education provided by the school?**

How high are standards in RE and how well do learners achieve? Why?	<b>-</b>
How effective are learning and teaching in RE ?	<b>-</b>
To what extent do learners of all faiths and of none demonstrate a positive attitude towards the subject?	<b>2</b>
How well does RE contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all learners?	<b>2</b>
To what extent does RE promote the distinctive Christian character of the school together with an understanding of other faiths?	<b>2</b>
How important is RE in the life of the school and how is this demonstrated?	<b>2</b>

**How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a church school?**

How well do the Headteacher and foundation governors promote a distinctive Christian vision for the school?	<b>2</b>
How effectively do the Headteacher, senior management and governors encourage, monitor and challenge the school community to realise this vision?	<b>2</b>
How valued do staff feel and how involved in putting the vision into practice?	<b>2</b>
To what extent are all stakeholders, including learners and their parents, involved in evaluating the school's progress?	<b>1</b>
How effective is the partnership between the school, the church and the local community including parents?	<b>1</b>



**Judgement Recording Form (NSJRF)**

Name of school: Sandown C.E. Primary  
Address of School: Grove Road, Sandown, PO36 9BQ

School URN: 118186  
Date of inspection: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
NS Inspector's Number: 26  
Type of Church School Voluntary Controlled  
Number of pupils: 252  
Phase of education: Primary. 4-9  
Has Diocesan Quality Assurance been obtained for this report? Yes

Rating 1-4

How distinctive and effective is the school as a Church school?	2
How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?	1
What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?	2
How effective is the religious education?	-
How effective are the leadership and management of the school, as a church school?	2
The school meets the statutory requirement for collective acts of worship	Y
The school meets the statutory requirement for religious education *	Y



**SECTION 48 SIAS GRANT CLAIM FORM  
SEPTEMBER 2008 – AUGUST 2009**

**Inspectors MUST submit this claim form with each Section 48 report. Items marked \* must be completed for every claim.**

\*Name of School: Sandown C.E. Primary School  
\*Address: Grove Road

Sandown

\*Postcode: PO36 9BQ  
\*Diocese: Portsmouth  
\*School URN: 118186  
\*Type of School: Voluntary Controlled Primary School  
\*Date of Inspection: 30<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
\*Denominational religious education inspected: No

Note

- Banking details will only be held for inspectors registered with the National Society. All other inspectors not registered will have to provide BACS details each time a report is submitted.

\*Name of Inspector: Harry Kirby  
\*Inspector Number: 26  
\*Payable to (if different to name above):  
\*Email: harryskirby@btinternet.com

Name and Address of Bank/Building Society:

Postcode:

Sort Code:

Account Name:

Account Number:

Building Society roll number (*if applicable*)

**Please Note:**

- All reports received by The National Society on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month will be processed for payment at the end of that month.
- Reports received after 15<sup>th</sup> of each month will be processed for payment in the next account period.

**If the above box has not been filled in does the National Society hold your BACS details? Yes**