

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Savile Town Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant & Nursery School

Warren Street
Savile Town
Dewsbury
WF12 9LY

Diocese: Wakefield

Local authority: Kirklees
Dates of inspection: 28th June 2007
Date of last inspection: 2002
School's unique reference number: 107702
Headteacher: Mrs Dianne Shaw
Inspector's name and number: Mrs Joan Rock - 340

School context

Savile Town is a Voluntary Controlled Church of England Infant and Nursery School with 100% Muslim pupils. The proportion of Punjabi speakers compared to Gujerati speakers is increasing. The school is situated in a deprived urban area of Kirklees. It is a two form entry, split site school with the Early Years unit sited on the opposite side of the road. The school's population is generally stable and there are currently 152 pupils on roll.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Savile Town as a Church of England school are good

This very effective, well led and managed Church School has a strong Christian ethos reflected through its caring and supportive relationships that are extended to all associated with the school. The pupils experience a wealth of opportunities in their commitment to educating the whole child in the context of a highly inclusive school. The school has a strong sense of responsibility and respect for the environment and this permeates strongly through school life. The school shows the capacity and commitment to develop even further.

Established strengths

- The Christian and inclusive ethos which greatly values each individual and enables pupils to develop their skills and achievements with confidence and purpose.
- The message conveyed through the strong relationships with the Church, Mosque, parents and the community.
- The high quality of personal, spiritual, moral, social and cultural development for all pupils.
- The strong leadership which encourages true partnership working within the community it serves.
- Good acts of worship which are central to school life.

Focus for development

- To continue to develop, strengthen and celebrate the inclusive and distinctive nature of the school.
- To further extend the opportunities for spiritual reflection in the acts of worship.
- To continue to develop effective monitoring procedures to evaluate its effectiveness as a church school.

The school is outstanding in the way it meets the needs of all learners through its distinctive Christian character.

The school makes excellent provision to meet the needs of all its learners. Learners are listened to, feel valued and special and play an active part in the life of the school. They are proud to influence decisions in the school and take responsibility. This is shown through the school council, eco council and playground buddies. A great emphasis is placed upon educating the whole child in the context of a highly inclusive church school. The school seeks to positively develop its Christian ethos and values in the everyday life of the school, its learning, relationships and practice. The school environment celebrates its Christian nature, encourages spiritual development, reflects its care for local and international issues and reinforces its Christian mission. The school is highly regarded and valued by the pupils, parents, governors and members of its community. There are excellent relationships throughout the school, characterised by a care and concern for others.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good

Collective worship plays a very important part in the life of the school. It makes a positive contribution to the Christian ethos of the school and to the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural education. Worship is well planned and evaluated involving members of staff, the foundation governor and other visitors. Themes chosen reflect the schools commitment to the environment, special days in the Christian and Muslim calendars and issues and events in the local and wider communities. Worship takes a variety of forms from circle time, single class and whole school assemblies, to meet the pupils' needs appropriately. High levels of participation by the pupils are encouraged through class assemblies, the reading and writing of prayers and the celebration of skills and achievements. Parents are encouraged to take part in family assemblies and special celebrations. The use of music, pictures and a lighted candle helps to make this a special time which gives pupils the opportunity to reflect upon their own thoughts and feelings.

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

Self-evaluation accurately points to the school being very effectively led and managed. The Leadership of the Head Teacher in partnership with the Governors, successfully draws together the school and local community with a common sense of purpose. The Head Teacher and Governing Body continually strive to promote a Christian ethos which celebrates Christian values in a multicultural world. The school welcomes and values suggestions and contributions from all members of the school and local community. Pupils and parents speak appreciatively of the school's ethos and care it gives. They feel there is always someone available for them to talk to and offer support. Pupils play an important part in contributing to the running of the school through their roles and responsibilities in the school and eco councils, as well as other aspects of school life. The school continues to develop effective monitoring procedures to evaluate their effectiveness as a church school.