

## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### Shalfleet Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Station Road  
Ningwood  
Newport  
PO30 4NN

#### Diocese: Portsmouth

Local authority: Isle of Wight  
Dates of inspection: 18 June 2007  
Date of last inspection: 1 – 3 July 2002  
School's unique reference number: 118188  
Headteacher: Mrs. V. Collins  
Inspector's name and number: Ann Brooks 352  
Jean Thomson 302

#### School context

Shalfleet CE Primary is a small Voluntary Controlled rural school. There is one class in each year group and pupils leave the school at the end of Year 4. The school is situated in an area of relative affluence serving a predominantly white middle class community. It is set in pleasant well laid-out grounds with plans for yet further development. At the time of the inspection there were 106 pupils on roll.

#### The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Shalfleet CE Primary School as a Church of England school are outstanding

The Christian ethos, which is held in high regard by the Headteacher is clearly supported by the whole school community. From the moment of entering the school, through its visual displays, welcoming and caring attitudes it is obvious that Christian values are at the heart of this school. All areas from the previous inspection report have been addressed.

#### Established strengths

- The Headteacher is outstanding in promoting the school's Christian ethos.
- The Vicar has an active role in supporting improvement and worship opportunities.
- The displays in classrooms and shared areas reflect and promote the Christian values that underpin the school's ethos.
- There are many well planned opportunities for the development of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.
- Pupils are polite, considerate of each other and reflective.
- The school has developed excellent links with parents and the local community.

#### Focus for development

- The school should continue with plans to formalise spiritual, moral, social and cultural education through the development of a whole school policy.
- Proceed with innovative plans to create an area in the school grounds, which will be a focus for meditation and prayer.
- To further extend the Christian values as a foundation of belief for the whole school community by referring to acts of worship rather than "school assemblies".
- Pupils would consistently demonstrate a more positive attitude towards RE through more inspiring planning to fully engage learners at all levels.

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

- Pupils are valued, their opinions are listened to and they speak with confidence about their pride in the school. There is a well-established and highly effective School Council. Members have been proactive in improving experiences for all pupils, for example making lunch times quieter by instigating two sittings.
- Pupils adopt healthy life styles, through whole school participation in daily exercise ('wake up and shake up'). Their emotional well-being is promoted sensitively by all members of staff. The school's success is demonstrated through recent achievement of Enhanced Healthy School Status.
- High quality displays of pupils' work reflect the value placed on effort and achievement.
- Children are actively encouraged to share knowledge and discuss opinions and ideas as part of the learning process.
- All classrooms have a prominent and interesting worship corner.
- The outside area has been developed to promote the idea of Christian stewardship towards our environment. Parents are building a 'Flotsam and Jetsam' sculpture and garden.
- As a Christian school it takes its global commitment seriously and has raised money for charitable causes and has a link with a school in Africa.

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

- The Headteacher sets an outstanding example of leading collective worship.
- Children are engaged and all ideas and contributions are valued.
- The Vicar leads acts of worship for the whole school, individual classes and provides regular opportunities for the children to both worship in and visit the church.
- Pupils speak positively about their collective worship experiences. For example, one boy stated that collective worship, "Gives me a chance to sort out worries and share my feelings."
- Music is used very effectively to create a spiritual atmosphere and to encourage enthusiastic participation in singing songs of praise. Pupils showed clear enjoyment as they led out from the hall singing a Blessing Song composed and written by the school.
- Children take the opportunity to leave prayers in a Prayer Box on the worship table for use during collective worship and recommendations to celebrate pupils' achievements and attitudes are written in the 'Golden Book'.
- Pupils of all ages demonstrate that they believe in the importance of prayer and, sensitively supported, willingly share their prayers with the whole school.

**The effectiveness of the religious education is good**

- RE is valued as a subject by all members of the school staff.
- There is an excellent quality and range of RE displays around the school.
- Good use is made of the church for visits even though it is not located in close proximity to the school.
- Children are beginning to develop an understanding of both Christianity and other faiths.

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

- The Headteacher's outstanding leadership, well supported by Governors and the Vicar ensures clear commitment to the Christian vision of the school.
- The strong leadership of the Headteacher has created a team fully supportive of the school's ethos. Prayers are now said at the beginning of all meetings.
- Through the School Council the Headteacher ensures pupils' involvement in decisions about school life.
- Headteacher and Governors seek the views of all stakeholders through regular questionnaires.

- Headteacher and Foundation Governors are actively involved in promoting school improvement initiatives through rigorous self-evaluation.
- Parents actively and regularly attend Christian worship in school and at the church. A Parents' Prayer and Friendship Group is held weekly in parents' homes. Members of the local community join staff for a weekly prayer meeting in school. The Prayer Group is able to pray for members of both the school and wider community following requests.
- The work of pupils is published regularly in the Village News, covering three local parishes.
- The school seeks to meaningfully involve local elderly residents by inviting them to the Harvest and Christmas Services.
- Members of the wider community are involved in the Christian life of the school by being invited to attend the annual Christingle Service and Ascension Day picnic.
- Shalfleet Community Project has been proactive in establishing extended school provision for children from 0 – 14. This is in keeping with the caring Christian ethos of the school.

SIAS report June 2007. Shalfleet Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Station Road, Ningwood, Newport, PO30 4NN.