

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Trinity Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Vicarage Road
Henley on Thames
RG9 1SE

Diocese: Oxford

LA: Oxfordshire

Dates of inspection: 9th November 2006

Date of last inspection: 9th-11th May 2000

School's Unique reference number: 123173

Name of Headteacher: Mrs M Jackson

Inspector's name and NS inspector's number: Mrs Pauline Stanton-Saringer

Context

This larger than average primary school takes children from a variety of social backgrounds in Henley. The majority are from advantaged families. There is a higher than average percentage of pupils with English as their second language. The Headteacher has been in post since September 2005 having been Deputy and then Acting Head during a time of upheaval in the school.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Trinity CE Primary School as a Church of England school are good

The present Headteacher has firmly re-established the values of a Church of England school and its relationship with the parish church. The school is a positive, enthusiastic and caring community which values all its members. The commitment of the Staff and governors to the Values Education is a key factor. The pupils are responding to the example and teaching of Christian values and appreciate the importance of the spiritual dimension of life.

Established strengths

- The excellent way in which the needs of all learners are met across all aspects of their development in school
- The positive, welcoming and caring working atmosphere throughout the school

Focus for development

- To ensure that the existing church school ethos is accurately reflected in the written aims and descriptions in the prospectus
- To raise the visual profile of the church school status within the school building.

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

The pupils speak very positively about their school. Recent leavers said that they were trusted and listened to. Pupils have the confidence and consideration for others which stem from being valued as individuals. The introduction of the Values Education programme means that the core of school life is based on Christian principles. This programme is being put into practice across the whole range of school life and is actively endorsed by the whole staff team.

Priorities in the school improvement plan are all focussed on the wellbeing of children.

The standards reached by learners are judged to be consistently high.

The large variety of clubs provides opportunities for all pupils to pursue interests outside the classroom. All achievement is celebrated - either together in assembly or by individual contact. The school has an active charity programme. Piles of boxes for Operation Christmas child are currently gathering in each classroom indicating the enthusiastic

involvement of the pupils and their families.

Recent parent and pupil questionnaires indicate that a very high percentage are happy with all aspects of school life.

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

Collective worship has an important place in the daily life of the school. Since it also underpins the Values Education programme it makes a strong contribution to the moral and spiritual development of the pupils. The atmosphere in worship is peaceful and attentive. Pupils also say they appreciate the times of reflection. They show an understanding of what prayer is. Worship has a clear Christian basis, but it remains inclusive and pupils respond well and sing well.

Leaders from the parish church have a valued role in the overall planning of collective worship. They also regularly lead the worship and are well respected within school. Pupils enjoy contributing to the worship in music and drama both in school and in the special celebrations in church at Harvest, Christmas and Easter. All this helps pupils to gain some understanding of the Anglican tradition.

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

In the year since her appointment, the Headteacher has re-established the strong links with the parish church. The governors are very supportive and the foundation governors are actively promoting the links. School news is displayed in church; the school is prayed for and the Headteacher attends some PCC meetings. All this is enhancing the sense of being part of a caring school community for both pupils and staff.

The staff are all strongly committed to the school. A recent questionnaire indicated that they all feel valued and supported. This is a result of the clear and inclusive leadership of the Headteacher.

Parents are keen to attend all the school's services in church and are now being invited to class assemblies. This is an indication of the positive relations with parents who feel welcomed both in school and in church.

The positive, enthusiastic, inclusive and caring school community is a good example of the church school ethos. This is a reflection of the good leadership and management.

The Headteacher has rightly identified the need to ensure that what is true of the school in practice is fully reflected in its written aims which at present lack a specific reference to spirituality.

SIAS report November 2006 Trinity Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School Vicarage Road Henley on Thames RG9 1SE