

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

Viscount Beaumont's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Ashby Road
Coleorton
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 8FD

Diocese: Leicester

LA: Leicestershire

Dates of inspection: 4th & 5th October 2006

Date of last inspection: 1st & 10th September 1997

School's unique reference No: 120194

Name of Headteacher: Mrs. Julie Wright

Inspector's name & No: Mrs. Diane Wright (169)

Context

The school is in the village of Coleorton, but set apart from the main areas of housing and the church. There are 74 pupils on roll, 32% of whom are out of catchment. One pupil is from a minority ethnic background. The old school, built in 1867 with recently completed modern extensions, provides excellent accommodation. Further developments to the school grounds will improve the existing good facilities for pupils.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of this school as a Church of England school are good.

The school is strongly committed to its Christian foundation and its ethos reflects this. The curriculum is based on Christian values, reinforced by collective worship and religious education. This is enhanced by the contribution of the local clergy.

Established strengths

- Very strong commitment to the school's Christian foundation and the Christian values that underpin all aspects of school life
- Well behaved, confident pupils
- Effectiveness in promoting pupils' spiritual, moral social and cultural development
- Strong links with the church, parents and community

Focus for development

- Ensure assessment and monitoring enables the staff and governors to consistently raise and achieve high standards
- Ensure that pupils have the opportunities to visit places of worship of faiths other than Christianity
- Audit the resources for religious education

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

The school has a strong Christian ethos which is fundamental to everything it is trying to achieve. The school provides a safe, secure environment where pupils can learn and develop, socially and academically. Collective worship and religious education make an important contribution to the pupils' moral and spiritual development. Pupils enjoy their work and know that teaching and support staff are there to help them make progress. Pupils with special educational needs have extra support. Achievements are celebrated in a weekly assembly which is much enjoyed by pupils and parents, who are invited to join them. Pupils understand

the need for good behaviour and are confident that any issues can be resolved by talking to staff. They are looking forward to the school council starting and the way it will add to their impact on school life. Parental views are sought through questionnaires. Pupils support a range of charities through fundraising, sometimes linking with the church, for example to support development in Tanzania. Extra-curricular activities provide valuable learning experiences for pupils.

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

Collective worship is seen as an important part of the school day. It is inclusive of all pupils and school adults. The pupils enjoy it and understand the effect it can have on their day-to-day lives. A group of older pupils efficiently assist in the organisation of worship. Worship incorporates drama, song, music, prayer and reflection. There is a table with a candle and a cross as a focal point. The pupils participated fully during the worship led by the Headteacher and the Rector. Presentation was lively and stimulating with pupils taking on roles and responding enthusiastically to questions. They entered, waited and left in a calm, orderly manner. Acts of worship are planned carefully and monitored by staff and governors. Worship also takes place in St Mary's Church at festivals and other regular services, which are well attended by families. Some worship takes place in St. John's Chapel, which is close to the school. Prayers are said at lunchtime and at the end of the school day. Worship makes an important contribution to the pupils' spiritual, moral social and cultural development. Recently-conducted interviews with some year 4 and 5 pupils indicates they value collective worship and are very willing to discuss their beliefs and doubts, and to ask searching questions.

The effectiveness of the religious education is satisfactory.

Religious education is taught following a rolling programme based on the new Diocesan Syllabus. Each class has its own scheme of work which has been devised by using units of work from the syllabus. Lessons are carefully planned with clear learning objectives, and pupils respond positively. Standards of achievement are broadly in line with those of core subjects. There are opportunities for looking at artefacts, listening, questioning, discussion, and written follow-up work. Visits to the local church enhance learning. Planning is monitored and work has been scrutinized by the subject co-ordinator and the appropriate governor. In line with the school improvement plan, observations of classes 1 and 2 taking place in the current term are focusing on marking to enable improvement and target setting. Future development is to broaden religious education through visits to places of worship of faiths other than Christianity.

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

The headteacher, in post since 2003, has given a clear sense of direction to the school, working hard with the staff and governors to secure school improvement. There has been a realistic appraisal of the strengths and areas for development as set out in the Improvement Plan. The governors are aware of their important role in ensuring that assessment and monitoring of pupil progress means consistently high standards are achieved. The headteacher and governors are very committed to the school's Christian foundation and there are strong links with the local church. There is good involvement of governors in visits to the school. Relationships with parents are good. Parents value the school's Christian foundation and feel staff are approachable and that any concerns they have will be dealt with. There is an active and committed Parents Association. Pupils enjoy being at school and are proud to be part of it.