



National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report

Sutterton Fourfields Church of England Primary School

Park Avenue
Sutterton
Boston
Lincolnshire
PE20 2 JN

Previous SIAMS Grade: Outstanding

Current Inspection Grade: Outstanding

Diocese: Lincoln

Local authority: Lincolnshire
Date of inspection: 30 April 2015
Date of last inspection: December 2010
School's unique reference number: 120544
Head Teacher: Claire Collett
Inspector's name and number: John Gibbs 818

School context

The school is smaller than average having 137 children on roll. The number of pupils in receipt of pupil premium and ethnic minority children is below average. The proportion of children with special educational needs and disabilities is at the national average. The school is in a hard federation with another church school and serves 4 local village communities. The executive headteacher has been in post since April 2015 and several new staff members were appointed in September 2014.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Sutterton Fourfields Primary School as a Church of England school are outstanding

- The Christian ethos of this school is well established and explicit. Christian values are clearly articulated, and shared on a daily basis by all members of the school community.
- Effective teaching and learning experiences within an inclusive and nurturing Christian environment enable pupils to make good progress and achieve well.
- Pupils behave well and give of their best at all times. Relationships between all members of the school community are linked well to the Christian character and values of the school.

Areas to improve

- Ensure the school worship group, 'Little Fish, are supported in leading and evaluating school worship in order to raise the involvement of pupils.
- Develop an outdoor spiritual garden to complement the indoor reflection areas in order to increase opportunities for spiritual reflection.

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

This is a happy and caring school where Christian values such as forgiveness and compassion permeate all aspects of the school's daily life. These values are seen to impact positively on the experiences of all the pupils. This together with effective teaching and learning experiences results in good standards of achievement in all areas of the curriculum. The senior leadership team provides very effective Christian leadership and pupils are well supported within a very positive environment. Pupils speak enthusiastically about the school and value the opportunities and available both inside and outside the classroom. As one pupil said, 'This school is great fun, the teachers are kind and there's always a lot to do'. Attendance is well above the national average and pupils make good progress in the core subjects. This is in part because the Christian character of the school and the school's core values create an ethos that ensures high attendance and the exemplary behaviour of the children. The quality of the relationships between all members of the school community are very impressive. This is because they are based on the school's core values which ensure that respect and compassion are always high on the agenda. This is borne out by the school behaviour records which show that exclusions are non-existent. The pupils readily recognise the importance of religious education (RE) in their lives. Its delivery makes a positive contribution to their spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development. Pupils know that it is important to learn about Christianity and other religions. They demonstrate a high degree of knowledge of the major events in the life of Jesus and speak positively about their RE lessons. There is a highly effective input from the vicar and other church groups who also lead worship regularly. The school makes excellent use of its environment to celebrate its Christian foundation and to nurture SMSC in an inspirational manner. This was seen in the high quality and thoughtfulness of displays throughout the school as well as the reflective areas in each classroom. This demonstrates the improvement since the last inspection. Parents value the accessibility of staff and speak highly of the caring and inclusive nature of the school. They value the high level of pastoral support within the school alongside its friendly and caring atmosphere and the high standards of behaviour and achievement. One parent commented, 'This school is great, the staff here really put themselves out, it's like one big family where you always feel welcome and the staff really care for you'. Pupils support and fund-raise for a wide range of charities at a local, national and global level and are proud of this. One child commented that this not only helps others but also makes him feel proud about himself. Their understanding of diversity included a sound perception of Christianity as a multi-world faith.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

A very high value is placed on the importance of the daily act of distinctively Christian worship. It is central to the life of this school and is an uplifting occasion recognised as a time for reflection, prayer and celebration. This results in collective worship of a high quality. Worship celebrates the school's Christian values in an inspirational manner. It is recognised and understood by pupils to be a time to come together to think about Jesus and celebrate God's wonderful world. Bible stories are used frequently and the children are able to speak about the impact it has with perception and obvious enjoyment. Pupils show a highly developed knowledge of the concept of Trinity with thoughtful comments on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One pupil said that, 'God is all around both inside and outside you'. Pupils are enthusiastic and positive about the wide variety of collective worship experiences provided by the school. They express their appreciation and excitement at their involvement in planning and delivering worship themselves with the recently formed school worship council known as 'Little Fish'. The impact of worship is high. This because it is well planned and regular evaluation by the senior leaders and governors ensures high quality of delivery. There is a strong relationship between the school and the local churches. This is echoed by parents who welcome the opportunity to participate in acts of worship both in the school on a weekly basis and also in the four local churches. Inclusion is ensured through the selection of a very

effective and broad set of themes that link with an emphasis on Christian values and current affairs. The church's year underpins the programme enabling good provision for developing understanding of Anglican tradition and practice. Pupils' attitude to prayer is respectful and very positive. There are many occasions for prayer and reflection on a daily basis which the children value. A pupils' worship council regularly evaluates worship, showing how the school has moved on since the last inspection. However, this model of evaluation is a recent addition and has not yet been embedded.

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

The effectiveness of the senior leadership team and governors in developing the school's Christian ethos is excellent. They articulate with confidence and clarity a well developed vision for the school which is rooted in distinctive Christian values. This has been shared extensively with other partners and is clearly expressed in documentation including comprehensive action plans for both RE and collective worship. There is an effective programme of staff development within the federation of schools which helps prepare staff for future leadership across church schools. The quality of the partnership between the school and diocese is excellent. Self-evaluation is realistic and of very good quality which makes the school's approach to improving standards robust. RE and collective worship meet statutory requirements and are well led and managed, leading to excellent practice in both areas. The headteacher and senior teachers, supported by a number of other committed members of staff, foundation governors and clergy model active Christian leadership. This has a positive impact on the well-being of the whole school community. They also promote appropriate ways of praying, thus cementing prayer into the foundation of the school. Parents and pupils feel that their views are sought and valued by school leaders. Team spirit in the school is very high and members of staff are positive about relationships within the school. Parents see the school's Christian ethos as a key reason for choosing the school. Parents acknowledge the way that links between the school and the local parish church are helping pupils to see the church as a welcoming place. This in turn develops their understanding of Christian worship and practice.

SIAMS report April 2015 Sutterton Fourfields Church of England Primary School, Boston, PE20 2JN