



CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL
EDUCATION DIVISION



The **Methodist Church** 

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report

Manor Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School

Teachers Way
Holbury
Southampton
SO45 2QG

Previous SIAMS grade: N/A

Diocese: Portsmouth

Local authority: Hampshire

Dates of inspection: 12 December 2014

Date of last inspection: N/A

School's unique reference number: 138242

Headteacher: Michelle Hale

Inspector's name and number: Linda Windsor (747)

School context

This is a much smaller than average infant school that draws its pupils mostly from the local village although with an increasing number of out of catchment pupils. There are very few pupils from ethnic groups. Pupil eligibility for Pupil Premium is well below average. The number of pupils supported at School Action is broadly average with the number supported at School Action Plus or with Statements of Educational Need is slightly above average. The school sought and achieved church school status in September 2012, opening as Manor Church of England Infant School. The headteacher has been in post since January 2014.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Manor CE Infant School as a Church of England school are outstanding

- The school's leadership has a clear view of its Christian mission, encapsulated by the shared Christian vision and values and lived in the daily life of the school.
- As a result of the exceptionally strong relationships in school, rooted in Love, Truth and Trust, pupils feel able to be open about their views and opinions.
- The excellent progress, attainment and attendance of pupils are attributed by all stakeholders to the school's Christian ethos.

Areas to improve

- The school leadership team, including Foundation governors, to work together to develop clear systems to monitor and evaluate the school's distinctiveness as a church school in order to identify further areas for development and, by acting on these, to establish increasingly exemplary practice
- Bearing in mind geographical distances, develop links with the new incumbent, building a more regular partnership between the church and school

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

As a school that actively sought and achieved church school status two years ago, it is clear that the school's Christian foundations are of immense importance to all in school and can be seen influencing all areas of school life. In the context of its Christian ethos, the needs of all the pupils are at the heart of the school, with pupils being extremely well supported and thus achieving both good attainment and progress. The core Christian values of 'Love, Trust and Truth' are known by all in the school community and pupils are very clear on the way these help shape their own behaviour and attitudes. Pupils display exemplary behaviour and their friendship and respect for each other shines through, modeled exceptionally well by all adults in school. Where there are barriers to learning, these are explored fully and appropriate support is given enabling all pupils to achieve the best possible outcomes. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils has a high priority, with a wealth of rich opportunities provided through the well planned curriculum, that help pupils in becoming reflective and respectful individuals who have a growing understanding of and empathy with the diverse world around us. Pupils are both interested in and excited by religious education and relish the challenging questions and concepts presented. Despite their young age, pupils in this school show a great maturity in attitudes, manifested for example, in their thoughtfulness towards their fundraising events. They demonstrate a growing understanding of the plight of groups of individuals and communities in need, whether local, national or global. The positive relationships across the school, based on the Christian values, demonstrate mutual respect, support and care for all. Parents value this deeply and are clear that the school's Christian values impact on the behaviour of their children both at home and at school, as well as giving their children a solid basis for future choices.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

Collective worship is thoroughly planned to ensure continuity and engagement and is led by the head teacher and other staff members. A retired vicar comes in on a monthly basis. A new incumbent is due to start in January 2015 and there are plans in place to build a stronger relationship between the parish church and the school. Collective worship holds a place central to the life of the school with both staff and pupils valuing these special times. Pupils clearly recognise the sense of occasion, demonstrating a calm maturity in their disposition and responses. Themes are planned around the church calendar and the school's Christian values, using both secular and biblical stories that enable pupils to make links to their own behaviour and attitudes. As a result, both are excellent. Many Anglican traditions are featured in school worship with a Christian greeting and a response, candles lit, a special table, prayer and worship songs. Pupils are very familiar with these and, those who attend regularly, are able to link them to practice in church. The worship observed was excellent. Pupils have a growing understanding of the Trinity, taught through Christmas, Easter and Pentecost, with clear links made to the school's core Christian values. This gives the concept more meaning and grounding, necessary for these very young children. Pupils' moral, social and, especially, spiritual development is very well supported through collective worship because of the carefully planned opportunities built in to each term's programme. The school both encourages and celebrates prayerfulness. Pupils have a well developed understanding of prayer as a time to talk to God and they do this very naturally. This is supported through opportunities for pupils to say or write their own prayers, including when attending Quest, a Christian club in school that runs weekly and is led by both foundation governors and local parishioners. All stakeholders participate in monitoring and evaluating the impact of collective worship. As a result of this process, changes have been made that have deepened pupil engagement and understanding. It is clear from the feedback that worship in school is highly valued, engaging and, at times, inspirational.

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

Since gaining Church of England school status in September 2012, the senior leadership and governors have ensured that creating its distinctiveness has been a high priority. As a result of the hard work and dedication, the school has a strongly Christian character and approach that is seen manifested in the happiness and success of all pupils. It is also evident in the care, support and mutual respect seen across the whole school community. The headteacher, new to the school in January 2014, is committed to promoting and living the Christian values in the school and is driving the school forward in continuous improvement to maximise pupils' development both academically and personally. A thorough programme for staff professional development helps to consolidate effective teaching and learning with good use made of diocesan training and support. RE is very well taught across the school and is well monitored by the RE leader (the headteacher) who has a clear picture for the provision and quality of teaching and learning across the school. As yet, governors do not have a clear plan of monitoring and evaluating the distinctiveness of the school to ensure its effectiveness on all aspects of school life. However, they are often in school and make a significant contribution to school life. Partnership work is evident, with strong links to the local parish community and parents. Future links to the local churches are planned. Parents talked glowingly of the school as a place that supports everyone and that lives out its Christian values each and every day. Statutory requirements for both collective worship and religious education are met.

SIAMS report December 2014 Manor CE Infant School Holbury SO45 2QG