



Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools
Under Section 48 of the Education Act 2006

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LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Long Whatton CE Primary School
The Green
Long Whatton
Loughborough
Leicestershire
LE12 5DB

Inspection Date: 7th December 2009

Section 48 Inspector: Mrs Sheila Grice (No: 165)



SIAS Report Form

Name and address of school:	Long Whatton Church of England Primary School The Green Long Whatton Loughborough Leicestershire LE12 5DB
Type of school	Primary
Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Diocese:	Leicester
Local Authority:	Leicestershire
Dates of inspection:	December 7 th 2009
Date of last inspection:	January 11 th /15 th 2007
School's Unique Ref. No:	120142
Name of Head teacher;	Mr Simon Perkins
Inspector's name (with N.S. No):	Mrs Sheila Grice (No. 165)
Context	
<p>Long Whatton Church of England Primary School is a small village school situated in NW Leicestershire. The school is a 4+ to 10+ school with two mixed age classes. The 51 children on roll are white British and come mainly from the village of Long Whatton. Standards on entry are above the local and national average and by the time children leave this school at the end of year 5 standards are well above expectations. The current head teacher has been at the school since September 2008.</p>	
Summary Judgment	
The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Long Whatton Church of England Primary as a Church of England school are good.	
<p>The school is a very successful Church of England school where Christian values permeate all aspects of school life. Children feel valued and special and the school makes very good provision to meet their needs. There is an atmosphere of mutual respect where achievements and success are celebrated. There are excellent relationships across the school, which has a very strong family ethos. The school's 'Can Do' culture is evident in all aspects of school life.</p>	
Established strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent relationships within the school with high levels of care from staff• Collective Worship occupies a place of central importance in the life of this school• Strong leadership from the headteacher who is well supported by staff	
Focus for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To develop a more rigorous and consistent approach to monitoring and evaluating this as a church school, involving the governors in this process• Involve children more in the prayer life of the school	

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

The Christian ethos of the school is embedded in all aspects of school life and the excellent relationships within school are based on the principles of sharing, caring, trust and mutual respect. The emphasis on 'Random Acts of Kindness' produces children who care for each other. Children have a good understanding of the importance of this as a church school. One child said, "Being in a Church of England school means we care about each other and we belong to God's family". Children's social, moral, spiritual and cultural development is good and the children were clearly moved by a recent visit by Father Dewa when he told them about the Stella Louise Hostel in India. One Year 5 girl was so overwhelmed that she donated £20 of her own pocket money towards a collection for the hostel. There are planned and spontaneous opportunities to develop children's spiritual awareness although some children would appreciate a special place where they could go to 'be quiet and think'. Children speak very positively about school and they have a good understanding of how to resolve conflict. The school has good links with the local churches and is central to the life of the local community.

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

The school is committed to the provision of high quality acts of collective worship which enrich the lives of the whole school community. It is clear that worship plays an important part in the life of the school as it enables the school community to worship and share together as a family. A recent improvement has been the opportunity to use the school hall each day for collective worship, rather than using a classroom. The local clergy lead worship each week and the children particularly enjoy the 'interactive and fun' assemblies based around a dramatized bible story which a group of children act out. The weekly 'Honours' assembly is popular with children because it gives them the opportunity to celebrate individual achievements. Worship is consistently and recognizably Christian. In the act of worship observed based around the theme of journeys, children were fully engaged throughout and enthusiastically joined in to answer questions. Singing and prayer played an important part in the worship and several children said they would appreciate the opportunity to write their own prayers or request prayers for individuals or situations. One child really appreciated it when a member of staff said a prayer for her grandma who was poorly.

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

The headteacher articulates a clear Christian vision for the school and he provides strong leadership. The governors are involved in the role of monitoring aspects of school life, although the monitoring of this as a church school has been identified as an area for further development. Children and adults speak confidently about the school's Christian vision, which is explicit in all public documentation. The school has made very good use of self-evaluation providing excellent evidence to support their judgements. Parents are regularly consulted over their views, both formally and informally, and the school responds to concerns raised. 92% of parents, who responded to a questionnaire, felt that the Christian ethos of the school has a positive impact on their child. The school benefits from a very close productive relationship with the Baptist Church which enhances the children's knowledge and understanding of the Christian faith. The leadership effectively promotes a distinctive Christian vision for education and the school is well placed to continue to develop as a church school.