



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

# **DIOCESE OF LEICESTER**

LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Swannington CE (cont) Primary School  
Main Street  
Swannington  
Coalville  
Leics  
LE67 8QJ

**Inspection Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

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



## SIAS Report Form

<b>Name and address of school:</b>	Swannington CE Primary School Main Street Swannington Leicestershire LE67 8QJ
<b>Type of school:</b>	Primary
<b>Status:</b>	Voluntary Controlled
<b>Diocese:</b>	Leicester
<b>Local Authority:</b>	Leicestershire
<b>Dates of inspection:</b>	March 13 <sup>th</sup> 2009
<b>Date of last inspection:</b>	January 11 <sup>th</sup> 2006
<b>School's Unique Ref. No.:</b>	120162
<b>Name of Head teacher:</b>	Mrs Mal Knapton
<b>Inspector's name (with N.S. No):</b>	Mrs Sheila Grice (No. 165)

  

<b>Context</b>
<p>Swannington is a small primary school in North West Leicestershire for pupils aged 4 – 11 years. At present there are 78 pupils on role, representing a broad socially mixed community. Approximately 31% are from traveller families and 36% of pupils come from out-of-catchment. A higher than average proportion of pupils leave or join school at times other than normal transfer times. The school has benefited from the acquisition of the school house which has extended the premises and enabled the Headteacher to have an office.</p>

  

<b>Summary Judgment</b>
<b>The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Swannington CE Primary as a Church of England school are good.</b>
<p>The school is a very successful Church of England school where Christian values permeate all aspects of school life. These values and attitudes are embedded in its mission statement, which is rooted in love, care and respect. Children and adults feel valued and respected and achievements are celebrated. There are very good relationships throughout the school, which has a welcoming, family atmosphere.</p>

  

<b>Established strengths</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The clear Christian vision and values promoted by the school</li><li>• Excellent relationships which result in high levels of care for all children</li><li>• A truly inclusive school where every child matters</li><li>• Strong leadership provided by headteacher and governors</li></ul>

  

<b>Focus for development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop more formal ways of evaluating the impact of Collective Worship</li><li>• Further develop children's cultural awareness and understanding</li><li>• Consider practical ways of responding to individual children's needs to visit the quiet area at times when they want to be alone</li></ul>

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

The Christian ethos in the school is very strong and permeates all aspects of school life from documentation and displays through to classroom practice. As a result relationships within the school are very good. Pupils are very happy and secure in school. They are valued as individuals and benefit from the warm family atmosphere, showing care and concern for one another. An example of this is seen through the way that children have learnt some Makaton to enable them to communicate with one of the younger children. Children show concern for the wider community through their contribution to charities and individual acts as well as whole school activities are encouraged. By delivering harvest baskets within the village it opens some children's eyes to the needs of the local community and one child describes the experience as "The best day of my life". The concept of forgiveness and reconciliation is central to the school's policy on behaviour management, which focuses on developing the whole child. The result is a culture of praise and reward throughout the school. Children are encouraged to be reflective both in acts of worship and in class and they speak positively about the quiet nature area which helps them to "be still and think" when they are upset. However, they would appreciate being able to use the quiet area whenever they need to.

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

Worship is important in the life of the school and children speak enthusiastically about collective worship. Staff, the vicar and regular visitors lead the times of worship. A particular favourite is the 'puppet man' who brings the bible to life and helps children to relate the message to their own lives. Although worship has a strong Christian focus, staff are sensitive to the needs of children and families of other faiths. High expectations are set for children's moral and spiritual development and collective worship has an effect on how children lead their everyday lives with regard to their behaviour and attitude towards each other. Children look forward to the daily acts of worship and enjoy taking part, both in school and at special services at St George's church. Recent attendance at Swannington Stable, an outdoor nativity in the village, proved to be a "magical experience" which encouraged children to ask searching questions about the birth of Jesus. Children value the opportunity to pray and be reflective because it gives them the opportunity to "Say sorry to God and ask for forgiveness".

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

The headteacher, staff and governors contribute significantly to the success of this school. Governors are involved with the headteacher and staff in monitoring, evaluating and developing the school's Christian ethos. However, at present there is no formal monitoring of the impact of collective worship. Staff are clear about the school's strengths and areas for improvement. They are building on the initial contacts made with a multi-cultural school in Leicester in order to make pupils more aware of other cultures. There are strong links with the local church community, despite the distance from St George's church. The church and school give practical and prayerful support to each other, particularly over special events. The headteacher feels well supported by the foundation governors who help to promote a sense of well-being amongst staff and children. Staff are involved and valued and consider this to be an effective church school where Christian values "guide our lives". Staff and foundation governors have benefited from attending training. Parents speak highly of the school and say that their children are happy, well cared for and valued. They appreciate the strong moral teaching the school provides which helps their children to behave well and care for others.