



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

DIOCESE OF LEICESTER

LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Long Clawson Church of England Primary School
School Lane
Long Clawson
Leicestershire
LE14 4PB

Inspection Date: 26th April 2010

Section 48 Inspector: Mrs Brenda Davies



SIAS Report Form

| | |
|--|--|
| Name and address of school: | Long Clawson CE (VC) Primary School School Lane Long Clawson Leicestershire LE14 4PB |
| Type of school | Primary |
| Status: | Voluntary Controlled |
| Diocese: | Leicester |
| Local Authority: | Leicestershire |
| Dates of inspection: | 26 th April 2010 |
| Date of last inspection: | 5 th and 25 th February 2008 |
| School's Unique Ref. No: | 120141 |
| Name of Head teacher; | Mr Trevor Walker |
| Inspector's name: | Mrs Brenda Davies |
| Context | |
| <p>This small primary school serves a rural area, drawing pupils of almost exclusively White British heritage from Long Clawson and surrounding villages. Numbers on roll have increased since the last inspection, due largely to the admission of Year 6 pupils following recent local authority reorganisation. The school enjoys active and productive links with the local Anglican Church and Methodist Church. Staff successfully employ creative ways to overcome the challenge of a lack of a school hall. The school uses the village hall seasonally for PE and the church for worship at significant times in the Anglican calendar and the school year.</p> | |
| Summary Judgment | |
| The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Long Clawson CE Primary School as a Church of England school are good. | |
| <p>The school is firmly committed to its Christian foundation. Relationships between governors, staff, pupils and parents and the local community are good and are based on clear Christian principles. The school is popular with pupils and parents, and clearly demonstrates and celebrates the Christian faith in worship and in the promotion of personal growth, responsibility and academic achievement.</p> | |
| Established strengths | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Links with a variety of churches within the community, which enhance the children's understanding of Christianity in practice.• Very good relationships across the school and with the community which are based on clear Christian principles of care, respect and tolerance for others.• Very well behaved, confident and articulate pupils who are eager to learn | |
| Focus for development | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide pupils with more opportunities to take an active part in the planning and delivery of collective worship• Ensure that all members of the school community are encouraged to engage in regular school review activities• Strengthen procedures to evaluate the impact of collective worship so that the outcomes can support future planning | |

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

Christian values are prominent in the life of the school and have a clearly positive impact on pupils' personal and academic development. Pupils feel safe, valued and respected. They show understanding of the needs of the less fortunate speaking with enthusiasm about how they can help others, citing their support for the education of a disabled child in The Gambia as an example. Older pupils enjoy helping younger children in school in a range of ways. The school council keenly represents the views of their peers and makes a positive contribution to change. Parents speak very positively of the way in which the Christian ethos of the school supports the good social, moral and spiritual development of their children and prepares them to learn very effectively. Most children make very good academic progress. Additional needs of individual pupils are met effectively. Promotion of creativity within the curriculum together with visits to an ethnically diverse area of Leicester encourages children to develop enquiring minds and to respect the diversity of other cultures and religions. There is an atmosphere of respect and enthusiasm for learning between staff and pupils throughout the school. Staff speak confidently about the positive impact of the Christian character of the school on pupils' very good behaviour and relationships at all levels. Christian symbols are present in classrooms and public areas around the school. Learning environments are bright and inviting. The building is well cared for and learning areas are well resourced.

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

The Christian character of the school is underpinned by daily acts of collective worship in a variety of forms from which staff and pupils benefit. The incumbent regularly leads worship in school and also in church on special occasions. Links with the Methodist Church are strong. Their minister also contributes regularly to collective worship in school. Pupils behaved well in the act of worship observed, and enjoyed being allowed to request prayer for particular situations. Staff and pupils joined in singing and prayers, including the Lord's Prayer, which most pupils knew from memory. Pupils understood the significance of the lighted candle. A moment of quiet gave all an opportunity to reflect on the message which was based on Holman Hunt's painting 'Light of the World' and encouraging words of Mother Teresa. Parents and children talk of their enjoyment of the variety of approaches the school adopts to collective worship. Children particularly enjoy being actively involved in worship and would like more opportunities to plan and deliver worship in their classes. The systems used to plan and record acts of collective worship are thorough, however greater depth and consistency is required in the quality of the school's self evaluation of the impact of worship.

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

The good leadership of the school as a Church school by the headteacher and Foundation governors has successfully developed the school's Christian ethos and vision so that it clearly underpins all aspects of practice. This is reflected in the school's vision statement, aims and documentation. Parents, pupils, staff and governors all speak with confidence of the many ways in which the Christian vision and ethos of the school impacts positively on pupils' overall development. Governors cite the 'family feel' and the development of moral understanding and responsibility as particular strengths together with the totally inclusive approach of the school to all learners. Pastoral and spiritual links with the parish are good and foundation governors provide a good level of support and challenge for the headteacher. Pupils, parents and staff are actively involved in a variety of church and school based community events which enhance the life of the school. Evaluations by staff, pupils, parents and governors of the school as a church school identify strengths particularly in relation to the academic, social, moral and spiritual development of learners. The school should continue to develop their links within and beyond the wider Leicestershire community in order to support pupils' inter-cultural understanding and their understanding and respect of ethnic and religious diversity.