



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

Diocese of Leicester

Leicestershire Local Authority

**Scalford Church of England (voluntary controlled)
Primary School**

Church Lane
Scalford
Leics
LE14 4DT

Inspection Date: 19th March 2010

Section 48 Inspector: Mr D G Jones (No: 166)



SIAS Report Form

Name and address of school:	Scalford CE Primary School School Lane Scalford Leics. LE14 4DT
Type of school	Primary
Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Diocese:	Leicester
Local Authority:	Leicestershire
Dates of inspection:	19 th March 2010
Date of last inspection:	5 th December 2006
School's Unique Ref. No:	120156
Name of Head teacher;	Mrs Irene Hill
Inspector's name (with N.S. No):	Mr D G Jones (No. 166)

Context
<p>This is a small village school near to the market town of Melton Mowbray. There are just 67 pupils aged 4 to 11, and the proportion of those who have a statement of educational needs is above average. Virtually all pupils are of white British heritage. About half of the pupils come from outside the priority geographical area, and some of these have expressed a preference for a Church of England school.</p>

Summary Judgment
<p>The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Scalford CE Primary as a Church of England school are good.</p> <p>Scalford CE Primary School has strong links with the parish church and Methodist church and is firmly committed to its Christian foundation. Pupils are confident and well behaved and contribute significantly to the future direction of the school.</p>

Established strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• strong links with the church, parents and the community;• well behaved, confident and caring pupils with a positive attitude to the school;• excellent collective worship with major contributions from clergy and laity of the local churches;• excellent links with a school in Leicester and one in Sri Lanka.

Focus for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Formalise the monitoring and evaluation of the impact of collective worship by staff and governors.• Ensure that the governing body has the opportunity, at least annually, to consider the development of the school's Christian ethos.

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

The school is committed to its Christian foundation and cares for the spiritual needs of all pupils. The Anglican priest and many of the laity are deeply involved in the life of the school as governors, visitors and leaders. Many take part in reading the Bible at collective worship weekly as part of the 'Open the Book' project and running 'messy church'. During the inspection, the Bible story was read by one whose father had been to this school at the beginning of the last century, and she was able to share a fascinating history of faith. The Methodist minister is also involved, and pupils attend worship at both churches. The school is committed to making a substantial contribution towards a redevelopment project at the village church which would provide facilities for the school which are lacking at present in this small building. Pupils have pride in themselves and their school, are supportive of each other, celebrate their successes and are tolerant of different views. An atmosphere of respect, friendliness and enjoyment pervade the school. Pupils feel that staff care for them and enable them to learn. The school has developed a link with a school in the city of Leicester with pupils of many cultures and faiths, and younger pupils who had visited reflected with enthusiasm on the occasion. There is also a link with a school in Sri Lanka, letters are exchanged between pupils and are greatly appreciated; pupils having learnt a great deal about differences in cultures and faiths from this experience. Spiritual development is excellent.

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

The act of worship observed was excellent, combining the celebration of achievement with an Open the Book reading (Joseph's interpretation of dreams), with pupils participating by playing a part and standing when their part was called. Older pupils led the worship and read three dreams they had looked at in verse. Pupils also led the prayers and introduced the songs, which were sung with gusto. The priest led a short reflection on dreams and what they teach us. Pupils enjoy worship immensely and are enthusiastic about their experiences. Worship is central to school life and contributes substantially to spiritual development. Pupils are familiar with both Anglican and Methodist traditions since they worship at both churches and the ministers contribute regularly to collective worship. Pupils are familiar with the major church festivals, the bible and the Eucharist. Older pupils joined the Bishop in his pilgrimage to the five churches in 2008 and learnt much from him. The coordinator takes real advantage of INSET opportunities and her position as church warden contributes to the strong links with the parish church and the school's commitment to the project for improvements. Pupils are convinced that collective worship has a positive impact on their lives.

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

The headteacher and governors have a strong commitment to the school's Christian foundation and Christian values of caring, tolerance, sharing, inclusion and respect are clearly within the school's aims and mission statement. These values are to be found in practice in pupils' excellent behaviour and attitude and their relationships with adults. A strategic development committee brings staff and governors together to draft the school's development plan, although the current plan is not strong on Christian ethos and worship. The coordinator for religious education and collective worship works closely with the headteacher and lead governor in developing this aspect of the school's life, and makes an important contribution. The self evaluation for the inspection was completed by the head and coordinator jointly and was well done, but the governors were not involved, In this small community, governors know the school well and visit frequently. The lead governor (the Rector) prepared an excellent record of a school visit in January and noted a number of requests made by pupils for greater participation in worship, and made a number of recommendations, some of which are already being implemented. It also assessed the impact of collective worship on pupils. The leadership and management of the school would be strengthened immensely if careful consideration of such a report were planned to be part of the governors' agenda, at least annually. The school council, meeting weekly, already forms an important forum for the communication of pupils' views and ideas.