



The National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools
(Carried out under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005)

Measham Church of England Primary School

Inspection Report

Address of School:	Bosworth Road Measham Derbyshire DE12 7LG
Telephone Number:	01530 271019
Email Address:	office@measham.leics.sch.uk
School Category:	Voluntary Controlled
Unique Reference Number:	120146
Type of School:	Primary
Diocese:	Leicester
Local Authority:	Leicestershire
Inspection Date:	15 th and 16 th February 2011
Reporting Inspector (and No):	David Dunmore (308)
Appropriate Authority:	The Governing Body
Chair of Governors:	Nikki Walters
Headteacher:	Derek Mullan
Pupils on school roll:	173

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Bosworth Road
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DE12 7LG

Diocese: Leicester

Local authority: Leicestershire
Dates of inspection: 15th and 16th February 2011
Date of last inspection: 20th and 25th June 2008
School's unique reference number: 120146
Headteacher: Derek Mullan
Inspector's name and number: David Dunmore (308)

School context

Measham is a small primary school on the Leicestershire/Derbyshire border serving an area of socio-economic deprivation. There are 173 pupils on role, mainly from White British backgrounds. The proportion of children with special needs and or disabilities is above the average. 37% of pupils are eligible for free school meals. The headteacher took up post in April 2008.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Measham CE Primary as a Church of England school are good

Measham school provides very good pastoral support, care and attention for each child within a strong Christian ethos. Pupils are valued and encouraged to achieve their potential. Effective leadership and good relationships ensures that behaviour is good and pupils have a positive attitude to learning.

Established strengths

- A clear commitment to the school's Christian foundation and the values that underpin every aspect of school life.
- Strong and purposeful leadership by headteacher supported by a very dedicated staff team.
- A very caring learning environment in which every child is valued and their individual needs are well supported.
- Close and positive links with parents, the Church and the community.

Focus for development

- Promote and celebrate the school's Christian values in the mission statement, aims, prospectus and school policies.
- Complete the Diocesan Self-Evaluation Toolkit to establish a clear picture of the school's distinctiveness as a Church School and identify areas for future development.
- Develop effective written procedures for monitoring and evaluating collective worship, involving children, staff and governors.

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

Measham School is a very welcoming school with a strong Christian ethos. Christian values of love, care, fairness and respect for others are implicit in the very positive and supportive relationships between staff and pupils and in all aspects of the work of the school. Pupils feel secure and valued as individuals and they are proud of their achievements. They speak with pride of 'friendly, kind teachers who help you when you are stuck and welcome you when you are new'. The picture of a cross and stained glass window, made by the children, displayed in the entrance area, the candle and sign of the fish used as a focus for worship and the Reflection Garden are evidence of the schools commitment to its Christian foundation. The school has been able to establish strong links with the local church. The headteacher and staff receive generous support from the incumbent who enjoys very good relationships with the children. The view of the church is 'the ethos of love and care in action within the school

is very profound'. The school is aware of the need to make more explicit in its vision, aims and other documentation, its Christian foundation and the key Christian values which inform its work. Exemplary support is provided for children with special needs including those with emotional and behavioural difficulties. Parents value this specialist help, together with the feedback and reassurance provided to families. The children commented with enthusiasm on the wide range of clubs and activities which they now enjoy; for example, badminton, netball, hockey, gymnastics and football. Effective praise and reward systems acknowledge achievement, personal skills and good behaviour and the 'Golden Balloons' awarded in the weekly awards assembly are greatly valued by all recipients. Pupils describe with pride their 'help for other people who are less fortunate' through charity appeals like Hats for Haiti, Children in Need, the Shoe Box Appeal and books sent to Africa. The School Council provides the children with a voice for improving their school. Their display board currently promotes healthy eating, with a focus on good choices for lunchboxes. Parents speak highly of the school, valuing the open, welcoming atmosphere from the headteacher and his staff, the very caring attitude towards the children and the strong links with the church.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good

Collective worship has a central place in the life of the school and makes a valuable contribution to the children's spiritual and moral development. Worship is carefully planned, drawing upon Diocesan themes, together with Christian festivals, special events and celebrations. All the staff are involved in leading worship. Worship begins every morning with the children setting up the hall and worship table and preparing the music and songs. The children enter respectfully and they are attentive and respond well when encouraged to play an active part or to provide thoughtful answers to key questions. The singing is joyful and enthusiastic. All the children are able to join in with saying the Lord's Prayer when the time comes for thoughtful reflection, with a lighted candle, at the end of the service. Pupils are encouraged to think carefully about the message of the service, what it means to them and how it might make a difference in their daily lives. The policy for collective worship now needs to articulate the school's current good practice. Pupils talk confidently and enthusiastically about their worship together, valuing 'new songs', 'when the choir and recorders take part', and the opportunities 'to pray for families and friends and peace in the world'. The children particularly enjoy the visits by the incumbent and termly visits to Church for Harvest, Christmas and Easter Services with their parents. These services provide opportunities for the children to contribute their own readings, prayers and hymns. Church services introduce different aspects of worship and symbolism that contribute to broadening pupils spiritual understanding. Regular opportunities for staff and governors to talk with children about their daily worship have not so far taken place. This formal monitoring and evaluation of collective worship needs to be introduced to gain a clear understanding about its impact and to generate new ideas and approaches to the future.

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

Over the past four years there has been a transformational change at Measham School. The headteacher's energy and vision has raised the school from one with serious weaknesses to now judged as good. Working with clear Christian focus, the school has worked hard to prioritise improving pupil's self esteem, attitudes to learning, personal development and academic achievement. Developing a strong and supportive partnership with parents and the community has also formed a key part of this process. All of this work has been achieved with the hard work of a valued and dedicated staff team. The Governing body is now very proactive in supporting the school's development, holding the headteacher to account, reviewing policies, monitoring key areas and supporting the Christian dimension of the school. Although there have been prioritised visits to monitor school improvements and pupil progress, the governors have not yet undertaken a formal evaluation of the distinctiveness of the school as a church school. The appointment of a new incumbent to St. Laurence's Church has enabled the school and church to build a very close and effective partnership for the benefit of children, staff and parents. Parents value and speak enthusiastically about the foundation of faith and Christian values which the school has established. Regular monitoring and evaluation of collective worship will help to provide a clear view of the children's spiritual awareness and its impact upon their lives. The headteacher and governors have plans to make more links with the Diocese in the future to guide its work as a church school and to develop the school's collective worship.