



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

# **DIOCESE OF LEICESTER**

LEICESTERSHIRE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Orchard CE (Controlled) Primary School  
Blenheim Crescent  
Broughton Astley  
Leics  
LE9 6QX

**Inspection Date: 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> May, 2008.**

**Section 48 Inspector: Mrs. Julie Wright (No: 215)**



## SIAS Report Form

<b>Name and address of school:</b>	Orchard CE Primary School Blenheim Crescent Broughton Astley Leicestershire LE9 6QX
<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>	6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> May, 2008
<b>Date of last inspection:</b>	24 <sup>th</sup> -26 <sup>th</sup> November, 2003
<b>School's Unique Ref. No:</b>	120120
<b>Name of Head teacher;</b>	Mrs Fiona Jones
<b>Inspector's name (with N.S. No):</b>	Mrs Julie Wright (No. 215)

  

<b>Context</b>
Orchard CE School is a well established, average sized church school within the village of Broughton Astley. Around a quarter of its pupils come from outside of the immediate area with a considerable proportion of parents choosing the school on religious grounds. The school is oversubscribed and has maintained a very stable staff since the last inspection.

  

<b>Summary Judgment</b>
<b>The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Orchard CE Primary as a Church of England school are outstanding.</b>
Orchard CE Primary School has a particularly strong Christian ethos and vision. This is recognized and valued by all stakeholders within the whole school community. Everything the school does is underpinned by a strong and compelling Christian commitment and the belief that 'children learn what they live'. The strong and quietly inspirational leadership of the Head Teacher is a particular strength of the school as a Church of England Primary School.

  

<b>Established strengths</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exemplary Christian ethos which promotes the achievement of high expectations throughout the school</li><li>• Strong and effective Christian leadership of the dedicated headteacher.</li><li>• Collective worship occupies a place of central importance in the life of the school</li><li>• All learners feel valued and special</li></ul>

  

<b>Focus for development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Involve learners and their carers in the evaluation of the Christian character of the school.</li><li>• Through internal and external display make more visible Orchard School's status as a Church of England School</li><li>• Adopt a school prayer to add another dimension to the already strong role of prayer in school</li></ul>

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

At Orchard CE Primary School all are included and valued. Every learner makes outstanding progress within a caring Christian environment where all achievements are valued and celebrated. Every child really does matter and achieves because of an effective and creative curriculum which actively promotes learner's spiritual and moral development. Adults know children well and plan work which is effectively matched to children's needs catering for their different learning styles and skills. Pupils are rightly proud of their school and can explain what is special about attending a Church of England primary school ~ 'It is like being part of God's family' said a member of the school council. They relish and rise to the challenges that life at Orchard CE School offers and are great ambassadors as school councillors, members of the Eco Committee, peer supporters or super leaders, representing the school at a recent local authority conference on cyber bullying. Parents too are rightly pleased with the education the school offers, indeed they were unable to find any grounds to criticize the school. These strong, supportive relationships are a particular feature which permeates all aspects of life at the School, and staff, pupils, governors and parents feel privileged to be a part of it.

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

Collective Worship is central to life at Orchard CE and has a deep, spiritual impact on all members of the school community. Individual acts of worship are carefully planned and evaluated. There is a wide variety of experience, from lively and interactive to quiet and reflective, yet all are spiritually moving. Diocesan themes are used. As well as attending weekly parents' assemblies, governors are actively involved in the formal evaluation of the impact of worship on the life of the school. Their carefully constructed visit reports give useful and effective direction which is acted upon by staff to further enhance the considerable impact that collective worship has. The introduction of a permanent focal point in the school hall or in individual class areas will greatly signify that worship is a special time in the life of the school. Children value collective worship and would be sad if they did not have the chance to meet together to 'Talk to God' and reflect quietly. A particularly powerful feature of collective worship is the time set aside for reflection and the way in which these reflections are used to form the basis of prayer. Effective links are made from collective worship into the whole curriculum, particularly into religious education lessons which help to contextualize and strengthen experiences for all children and are instrumental in developing a strong sense of the Anglican tradition.

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

The quietly inspirational leadership of the long serving headteacher, committed staff team and strong, knowledgeable governing body ensure that leadership is distinctive and effective at all levels. The powerful Christian ethos and vision is owned by all stakeholders, meaning that behaviour and consideration for others is consistently excellent throughout the school. A well thought out and strongly evidence based self evaluation of the school as a church school has been drawn up jointly by the senior management team, governors and RE co-ordinator. This strong and rigorous self evaluation of the school's distinctiveness has led to the formulation of a sharply focused school improvement plan and accurate identification of priorities. Governors are currently developing a means to seek the views of learners and carers over aspects relating to the school's Christian character and constantly seek out ways to improve and grow further. The skillful mentoring of the RE co-ordinator by the headteacher shows the strong emphasis on relationships throughout the school. She has the capacity to secure even more improvement.