



Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools
Under Section 48 of the Education Act 2005

DIOCESE OF LEICESTER

LEICESTERSHIRE EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Old Dalby CE Primary School
Longcliff Hill
Old Dalby
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE14 3JY

Inspection Dates: 2nd and 9th October 2006

Section 48 Inspector: Marian Driver



SIAS Report Form

Name and address of school:	Old Dalby CE (controlled) Primary School Longcliff Hill Old Dalby Melton Mowbray Leicestershire LE14 3JY
Type of school:	Primary
Status:	Voluntary Controlled
Diocese:	Leicester
LEA:	Leicestershire
Dates of inspection:	2 and 9 October 2006
Date of last inspection:	27 & 28 June 2001
School's Unique reference No:	120150
Name of Head teacher:	Mr. Steve Cliff
Inspector's name with N.S. No:	Mrs.Marian Driver (No: 116)
Context	
Old Dalby C of E Primary school, situated in the village of Old Dalby is a small village school set in attractive grounds and surrounded by countryside. There are 130 children on roll arranged in five classes. The catchment area of the school comprises of the villages of Old Dalby, Nether Broughton, Grimston, Saxeby and outlying areas. A number of service families are represented. Almost all pupils are of white British origin. The headteacher has been at the school for ten years.	
Summary Judgement	
The distinctiveness and effectiveness of this school as a Church of England school are satisfactory.	
Old Dalby C of E primary is a satisfactory church school with many good features. There are wide community links and a strong ethos of caring for others. The strong link with the parish church provides good support for the school's Christian Foundation.	
Established strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Headteacher well supported by governors• Strong regular input from the vicar provides a strong Christian ethos• Well developed community links• Effective School council make decisions based on other children's views	
Focus for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop the vision of the church school so that the Christian Foundation is more distinctive• Ensure that the aims of the school include the promotion of Christian Values• Involve the Foundation governors in the self evaluation of Collective Worship	

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

Old Dalby provides a safe, secure environment and makes good provision for all learners. The school has well established links with local churches and benefits from the regular contribution made by the local Vicar to collective worship and RE teaching, however, the distinctive nature of the church school is not paramount in the school prospectus. Governors work closely with the headteacher to follow the mission statement, 'Together We Will'. Children know the mission statement and were involved in discussions to promote a class 'Code of Conduct'. Partnership between home and school is strong and parents feel they are made welcome in school. The school is inclusive and 'every child does matter and every voice is heard'. A well developed award system is in place to celebrate children's successes. A weekly 'excellence' assembly rewards all areas of achievement and annual awards are given by the governors in memory of those who have given service to the school. Children speak of their involvement in many school decisions and the effective school council chooses the charity for the year. Learners are well aware of the need to help the less fortunate both locally and worldwide. Links with another school in Leicester and a school in Madrid aids their understanding of different cultures.

The impact of collective worship on the school is good.

The school holds a daily act of collective worship, in which all pupils gather together, and is led by all members of the teaching staff on a rota. As part of the Harvest Festival service in church, children brought harvest gifts, displayed artwork, wrote poems and made up their own prayers as a celebration of harvest. Parents and local community members joined in the service showing how the school is a vital part of the rural community. During the act of collective worship taken by the headteacher, children entered the hall quietly, listened to the music and were receptive to the talk. The 'Light of the World theme' emphasized the importance of God in the lives of others. Children gladly volunteered to take part and demonstrated the switching on and off of the lights in a humorous way. They responded to the lighting of the candle and were quiet and reflective ready for prayer. A well-constructed collective worship policy states the clear importance of Christian morals and values and the importance of collective worship in this school. Themes for collective worship follow a clear plan based upon Diocesan guidelines. A recent evaluation by the collective worship co-ordinator indicated that the shorter format was effective. Governors attend collective worship and formal monitoring by Foundation governors would further this evaluation.

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

The headteacher and governors work well together to provide effective leadership and management of the school. There is a supportive staff team and the good relationships across the school reflect distinct Christian values. The school's written aims do not, however, mention the Christian ethos of the school which is clearly evident. The school's own self evaluation indicates that the promotion of a distinct Christian vision for the school is underdeveloped. The school promotes good spiritual, moral, social and cultural development and this is shown by the way children value others and have an awareness of those in need. Governors provide valuable support and are regularly involved in school life. A strong and supportive ' Friends of Old Dalby ' group organize activities and raise funds to improve the resources of the school.