

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Filey Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School	Padbury Avenue Filey YO14 0BA	
Current SIAMS inspection grade	Outstanding	
Diocese/Methodist District	York	
Previous SIAMS inspection grade:	Good	
Local authority	North Yorkshire	
Date/s of inspection	7 th October 2016	
Date of last inspection	18 th October 2011	
School's unique reference number	121533	
Headteacher	Denise Crosier	
Inspector's name and number	Linda Dixon	861

School context

Filey Infant and Nursery is situated on the North Yorkshire coast. It is of average size with 243 pupils including 55 Nursery most of whom are of White British heritage. 15.2% of pupils receive additional provision to succeed with their learning. The free school meal indicator is 14.23%. Since the previous inspection the leadership team has been restructured. The school buildings have been expanded due to a rising pupil numbers.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Filey Infant and Nursery as a Church of England school are outstanding

- Christian values of friendship, compassion and community have a clear impact on behaviour, attitudes to learning and pupils' enjoyment of school.
- The relationship between adults that creates a loving and caring learning environment with a team approach to the progress of each individual child.
- In this supportive environment all pupils make very good progress and achieve well.
- The outstanding impact the creative curriculum makes on pupils' spiritual development and the school distinctive Christian character.

Areas to improve

- Develop an integrated approach for monitoring and evaluation Christian distinctiveness including all stakeholders.
- Support the RE/CW leaders to develop their roles both within the school and ensure that as a result pupils learn about Christianity around the world.

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

The school is committed to providing high quality education embedded in a firm Christian base. The statement, 'Inspiring Confident Leaders, Reflecting Christian values,' permeates all aspects of school life shaping and determining priorities. As a result, pupils are loved, motivated and feel respected. Consequently, they learn in a safe and secure Christian environment where their wellbeing is of paramount importance. This creates an extremely positive climate for learning leading to attainment at the end of Key Stage 1 being broadly in line with schools nationally. On entry to Nursery pupils soon feel very secure in the nurturing environment. They settle quickly and excellent assessment ensures that their needs are met from low starting points. Provision is stimulating and promotes learning. By the time pupils enter Year 1 they are confident and ready to learn. The progress in academic achievement and behaviour of vulnerable pupils is a testimony to the high quality teaching, pastoral care and compassion given to all. The Christian values of friendship, compassion and community are at the heart of the excellent relationships between adults and children. This extends to family learning, whereby parents and pupils work together. Pupils see strong links between the Christian values and the choices they make. A Year 2 pupil said, 'they are examples of how to be a friend', and enjoy the family feel of the school. Year 2 live out the values of friendship and compassion when supporting younger pupils at lunchtimes. The school's commitment to developing art, music and drama is an outstanding feature of its provision. Careful planning ensures that religious education (RE) is enhanced by the school's creative curriculum and high quality learning experiences. An example of this is forest and beach schools. RE, together with the daily act of worship makes an outstanding contribution to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. As a result they engage and challenges pupils, but also enhance the Christian character of the school. This ensures that pupils understand the origins of the values within the Christian faith. As a result, fundraising activities for Children in Need and Comic Relief has allowed the pupils to experience the values of service and compassion. Through involvement with the Zulu Nation programme and Enterprise themes pupils engage with diversity and global issues. For example, 'Around the world in 18 days'.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

The daily act of collective worship is valued by pupils and staff. This develops a strong feeling of the school as a family and a worship community. A focus on the school's Christian values enriches this sense of common purpose. Pupils talk how the themes that are shared influence kindness and politeness in relationships throughout the school. This is based on Proverbs 22:6, 'Teach children how to live and they will remember it all their lives'. Worship often begins with a prayer and the lighting of a candle. Even Year 1 children are able to talk about what Jesus means to them as 'the light of the world'. Through, these simple actions pupils are developing an understanding of aspects of Anglican practice. Careful planning by staff places an emphasis on the major festivals of the church year, stories from the Bible, Jesus' teachings and Christian values. Many Biblical stories used are linked to the sea and reflect the school its badge and its proximity to the coast. For example, 'the feeding of the five thousand'. Pupils appreciate the input from a retired vicar and a foundation governor from St John's Church who regularly support worship with 'Open the Book'. During worship pupils sing enthusiastically and describe prayer as a time to say thank you to God. They confidently write and share their own prayers as well as reciting the school prayer. They display a spiritual awareness, valuing silence and reflection times to respond to challenging questions. Reflection areas in classrooms and outside provide further opportunities for spiritual development for example the harvest of the sea. Pupils are being encouraged be curious and question religious and spiritual issues. When the Archbishop of York visited the school on his recent Pilgrimage of Prayer pupils asked, 'why is the grass green?' and 'why do birds fly so high?' The impact of worship is effectively monitored and evaluated ensuring that plans are reviewed in the light of regular discussion and feedback from pupils, staff and governors. Secure links with St John's, especially at festival times are enjoyed by the school and supported by parents. These enhance pupil's experiences of Anglican tradition and liturgy. As a result, pupils recognise charitable giving and the need to support others less fortunate locally by sharing Harvest gifts.

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

The resilient and dedicated leadership of the headteacher ensures that the school promotes a distinctly Christian vision rooted in Christian values. This is shared and encouraged by staff, pupils, governors and parents. Through its nurturing ethos leaders ensure that this is a highly effective school which encourages pupils' spiritual development and academic achievement. Furthermore, that the wellbeing of both pupils and staff is at the heart of the school. This means that the school has continued to move forward since the last inspection and increased its Christian distinctiveness. Parents commented that the headteacher and staff are excellent role models for the pupils, as they live out the school's Christian values. The values also underpin the support given by the school to families in challenging situations. Self-evaluation involves staff, pupils and governors. Through regular visits to the school and links with subject leaders, governors know their school well. They carry out learning walks, work scrutiny and pupil interviews. In addition, governors provide both challenge and support to the headteacher. Regular reports on monitoring are shared with the full governing body, ensuring that governors are well informed about new initiatives. However, the school has recognised that a more integrated approach to recording evidence from monitoring and evaluating of the school's distinctive Christian character is required. The foundation governor regularly runs a sparklers club which is oversubscribed, as an extra-curricular activity. It is for pupils to further develop their understanding of the Christian faith. The Christian character of the school is secure because of the strong working relationships and distributed leadership amongst staff. This enables middle leaders to develop and ensures that the quality of leadership continues when leaders change. An example of this is the way in which senior leaders have supported the new RE coordinator. This committed leadership of RE and worship ensures that not only do they meet statutory requirements, but they also help to define the school's Christian values. These have an impact on behaviour, attitudes and the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils. The nurturing of life skills in the pupils can be seen through Enterprise projects like the bread sale and the Mad Hatter's tea party. A further strength of the school is its partnership with the parish and community links. Year 2 pupils attend services at the Filey Memorial Garden to remember soldiers in both world wars. Nativity bags travel home, and nativity shoe boxes are displayed in local shops and businesses. These shared activities support the schools' distinctive Christian character and enable its vision to be shared and widely understood.

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