



CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL
EDUCATION DIVISION



The **Methodist Church** 

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report

Kibworth Church of England Primary School

Hillcrest Avenue
Kibworth Beauchamp
Leicestershire
LE8 0NH

Previous SIAMS grade: Outstanding

This inspection grade: Outstanding

Diocese: Leicester

Local authority: N/A

Date of inspection: 10 November 2015

Date of last inspection: October 2010

School's unique reference number: 138358

Headteacher: David Briggs

Inspector's name and number: Janet Northing 792

School context

Kibworth is a larger than average three form entry primary school. The majority of pupils are White British. The number of pupils eligible for pupil premium funding is in line with the national average. Proportionally the number of children with a statement of special educational needs is below that of other schools nationally. In 2012 the school converted to academy status becoming a member of the Multi Academy Discovery Schools Trust. It was also granted National Teaching School status. The current headteacher has been in post since Easter 2015.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Kibworth as a Church of England school are outstanding

- School leaders consistently promote a Christ centred vision for the school that impacts positively on pupils' personal and academic development.
- The school's Christian values lie at the heart of the school's strategic decision-making informing the way the governing body conducts its business.
- High quality worship inspires the whole school community to grow together and be at one with each other leading to positive relationships.
- The depth of the school's Christian character enriches the lives of pupils and staff alike so that all feel valued and inspired to be the best that they can be.

Areas to improve

- Put in place strategies to monitor the effectiveness of the current high quality provision for spiritual development so that all pupils are confident when expressing their ideas and opinions.

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

'Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from the Lord' is a biblical quote from Psalm 127 attached to the doorpost of the school entrance. It encapsulates the Christian belief in the uniqueness and value of every individual child attending the school. Christian values are deeply embedded in every area of school life. As a result they positively influence the wellbeing and personal development of the whole school community by creating a safe, secure and nurturing environment. This in turn impacts positively on pupil attainment and achievement that is consistently above the national average for all groups of pupils. Christian values inform the school's approach to behaviour management. For example the value of goodness is linked to character development along with that of respect and kindness. As a result pupil behaviour is outstanding demonstrating a secure and practical application of the values to the daily routines of school life. In addition the Christian character of the school shapes its approach to attendance, which is routinely above that of other schools nationally. Pupils readily associate the school's Christian values with examples in the life of Jesus Christ, linking 'friendship' to Jesus' relationship with his disciples and 'respect' to Jesus' attitude towards the outcasts of society. All members of the community recognise that the quality of relationships is a direct result of the Christian ethos. They describe the school as an extended family where every member is important. Links with a Christian charity in Delhi and an Islamic school in Belarus are foci for sustained fundraising, and cultural links. Religious Education (RE) supports the Christian character of the school and contributes significantly to children's perception of diversity and difference both nationally and globally. The Christian ethos and values, along with a range of curricular and extra-curricular activities support pupil's spiritual, moral, social and cultural (SMSC) development. Despite the school's high quality provision for spiritual development not all learners are confident when expressing their thoughts and feelings in depth.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

Kibworth is a school community that places great value on Christian worship and by doing so places Jesus Christ at the heart of its corporate life. Worship themes focusing on the school's Christian values, biblical teaching and the Church's liturgical calendar inspire reflection and inform the lives of pupils and adults alike. A creative approach to worship through visual imagery, liturgical dance, drama and the spoken word is engaging for learners, inspires reflection and supports spiritual development. Similarly, staff recognise the transformative nature of worship to support them in their differing roles and in some cases re-ignite their faith. Children experience prayer throughout the school day. Reflection spaces in classrooms enable pupils to appreciate the part that prayer can play in their lives. Pupils' understanding of the Trinitarian nature of Christianity is informed by following the Church's liturgical cycle. Whilst some children are able to talk perceptively about God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the school has correctly identified the need to embed this further. Areas for development from the last inspection including increasing the opportunities for children to plan and lead worship, and the development of the outdoor environment have been well addressed. With support from the church a group of Faith Followers, made up of children from across the school, meet weekly to plan and evaluate worship. Describing this as a 'dream job' one child epitomises the passion that all members feel towards this important role. The Peace Garden is a precious outdoor space tended on a daily basis by the Faith Followers. It provides additional scope for spiritual reflection and prayer. Learners' experience of denominational worship is rich and includes the involvement of church leaders from St. Wilfrid's, the Methodist and local Free church. This, along with worship led by teachers and the pupils themselves, gives a sense of vibrancy and joy. Monitoring and evaluation involves a range of stakeholders including the children themselves and results in the on-going improvement and accessibility of worship.

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

The headteacher is visionary in his leadership of Kibworth as a church school. This is exemplified in his desire that the 'school is church and a place where pupils can grow in their faith, and be at one with each other.' Governors are equally passionate that the school is a Christ centred community and place where all are valued and made welcome. Leaders at all levels clearly articulate the impact of the Christian vision on school performance and their desire to offer high quality learning experiences. In addition membership of a school that so enthusiastically promotes Christian values, provides a richness of wellbeing and pastoral care for the whole community. The impact of the Christian vision is secured through rigorous evaluation and strategic planning. Christian values inform the governing body's long-term decision making. For example, the prime consideration when planning improvements to the hall space is that it should continue to maximise the impact of worship. Though not all schools within the multi academy trust are church schools membership increases the potential for teacher's professional development and future leadership across church schools. Likewise, governors are conscientious regarding their own on-going development particularly in ways to further enhance and promote the school's Christian distinctiveness. The leaders of RE and collective worship are well supported and valued in their roles. Collaboration between the leaders of RE, collective worship and SMSC is beginning to further enhance the contribution of these areas to children's lives. While the provision for spiritual development is of a high quality not all pupils are confident when expressing their ideas and opinions. More regular monitoring is necessary to ensure that the provision effectively supports all pupils to be self-assured when expressing their thoughts and feelings. Arrangements for RE and collective worship more than meet statutory requirements. Partnerships with parents are positive. Although Kibworth's church school status is not always a prime consideration when choosing the school for their children, parents are appreciative of the positive impact of the Christian ethos and values. In particular parents speak of their enjoyment of worship both in school and at St. Wilfrid's. Links with St. Wilfrid's and other denominational churches locally are mutually beneficial and contribute significantly to the school's Christian character and children's lives.

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