

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

North Cave Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Station Road, North Cave, Brough HU15 2LA	
Current SIAMS inspection grade	Good
Diocese	York
Previous SIAMS inspection grade	Good
Local authority	East Riding of Yorkshire
Date of inspection	2 December 2016
Date of last inspection	8 November 2011
Type of school and unique reference number	VC Primary 117984
Headteacher	Richard Winks
Inspector's name and number	Paul Bramley 326

School context

North Cave is a smaller than average primary school situated in a rural village positioned to the west of Hull. It caters for 110 children aged from 4 -11 years of age, with the majority attending from socially advantaged backgrounds. The school has a significantly low proportion of children qualifying for pupil premium support, and a higher than average percentage of pupils with an education, health and care plan. All of the children are of white British background. The present headteacher and two of the teaching staff were not in post at the time of the last SIAS inspection.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of North Cave as a Church of England school are good

- Christian values are embedded within the life of the school and have a positive impact on the achievement and attainment of learners.
- The close links between the church and the school enhance its distinctiveness and enable the community to see both as one family.
- Relationships modelled throughout the school, based on explicit Christian values of determination, trust, friendship and respect impact very positively on all within this community.
- The commitment of all to value and nurture children as individuals, uniquely created by God, leads to a totally inclusive setting that openly welcomes and supports children with varying needs and abilities.

Areas to improve

- To provide opportunities for learners to improve global awareness through increased involvement with those of other faiths.
- To develop areas within the school, particularly within the classrooms, to allow children time and space for individual spiritual reflection and prayer.

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

Christian values are at the very heart of this school, emanating from a vision shared by the headteacher, governors, church and community. North Cave is a very happy school that children enjoy greatly, resulting in excellent

attendance and a vibrant atmosphere. Parents and carers speak with enthusiasm of their feeling trusted and welcomed at every opportunity. All feel able to share concerns with staff at any time. Relationships at the school are excellent, with the school's values focussing on determination, trust, friendship and respect for God's world and everyone within it. These values influence the lives of all connected to the school and underpin the family atmosphere created. The values support the good achievement and attainment seen in recent years. When achievement or behaviour is challenging, Christian values strengthen staff resolve to ensure a highly individualised and supportive approach to tackling concerns. Children understand the effect of these values on their learning, and speak of the importance of determination and resilience and of wanting to give of their best. Their moral and social development is therefore good. Throughout the school, the Christian values selected by the community are displayed. These present visual reminders of the Christian foundation of the school and impact on daily life, for example, in the excellent behaviour of the children. The links with the church are strong with the present vicar visiting regularly. The vicar enjoys a prominent role in the life of the school, including by working as a governor. Parents and carers value this link and speak of celebrations and worship at church with great interest. Since the last inspection, the head, staff and governors have ensured that North Cave's profile as a Church of England primary school is celebrated and developed. The school website and significant documentation use every opportunity to celebrate the Anglican foundation of the school. Within the curriculum, religious education (RE) is given a high priority, supporting the pupils' Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development. Pupils speak freely and with confidence about faith and beliefs and make links between what they have learnt in RE with their own lives. Topics on other faiths such as Hinduism, Islam and Buddhism provide an insight into a range of cultures different from their own. Visits to and from people of other faiths are, however, limited. This is something the school identifies within its self-evaluation. Living in a significantly mono-cultural community, all connected to the school would welcome increasing global awareness so that children have a greater knowledge of the wider world community.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is good

Collective worship is enjoyed by all and is central to the daily life of this school. Planning is thorough and follows the church calendar, with Anglican symbolism and practice evident. For example through the use of the Bible, cross and candle, and also via a toy vicar who sits permanently in the school hall dressed in the appropriate liturgical colour. Worship clearly links Bible stories to values that are important to the school. A good policy is in place that ensures that all within the community are aware of the importance of this activity to the school. Children regularly take part in the worship. For example, in planning, reading, leading worship and with the writing of prayers which along with other work are displayed regularly in church. Parents appreciate their children's experience of collective worship and talk with enthusiasm about the roles that their children play in this aspect of school life. Children totally engage with worship and behaviour is exemplary. They respond with enthusiasm to opportunities to sing, pray and reflect. They talk about collective worship with passion and reflect well upon the success of the worship with which they have been involved. Children relate with confidence links between the values discussed and their everyday lives. For example, determination and resilience being used by one child to overcome a maths challenge. Children are developing an understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit through worship and in class discussions. The headteacher and foundation governors monitor collective worship with children frequently asked to offer opinion and suggestion. Links with the church are good with the school visiting for all of the major festivals. The parish is mutually supportive with a coffee morning held regularly in school being a vehicle by which parents and carers can meet and talk with the local vicar, staff and children. Prayer is important to the school and is something that the school wishes to develop. Children frequently write their own and offer these with their peers at the end of a school day. Within worship and at certain times of the day children do have the opportunity for personal reflection and prayer. Spaces for such activity are something that staff, children and community would welcome being developed within the school, and in particular within the classrooms.

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

The school is well led and managed by the headteacher and governors, supported by an enthusiastic and professional staff. Since his appointment the headteacher has successfully established a sense of team along with an ethos rooted in a distinctive Christian vision. This vision impacts positively on pupils in terms of their learning and well-being. All want to give of their best. Relationships are excellent with all living out and modelling the Christian values they uphold. Staff speak with pride as to how they model the four chosen values in particular, with determination, trust, friendship and respect at the forefront of all their thinking. Progress since the last inspection has been good with all areas for development from the previous inspection having been met in full. Statutory requirements for RE and worship are met. Great emphasis in the last few years has been placed on articulating and developing the importance of Christian values to the life of the school. This is evident through the school's literature, in its practice, and in the symbolism evident in the school itself. The governors monitor the distinctive nature of the school, with the foundation governors playing a major role, reporting back at every full governing body

meeting. Leadership of RE and collective worship are good with staff constantly seeking ways of increasing children's knowledge and with the planning and delivery of worship. Provision for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is also good ensuring that children develop as confident and caring learners. Relationships with parents, carers and the local community are good, with frequent opportunities provided for feedback and suggestion. Links with the church and community are excellent with children involved in a number of fundraising and church events. All combine to create a sense of family in the eyes of the community and encourage people to see the school and church as one. The school enjoys a helpful partnership with local educational settings. It engages well with the Diocese of York, thus benefiting from professional development training and support. Governors are aware of succession planning issues and are developing links with other schools to maximise the opportunities for collaborative working.

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