



CHURCH OF ENGLAND
ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL
EDUCATION DIVISION



The **Methodist Church** 

National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report

Wouldham All Saints Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

School Lane,
Wouldham,
Rochester,
Kent, ME1 3TS

Previous SIAMS grade: Good

Current inspection grade: Outstanding

Diocese: Rochester

Local authority: Kent

Date of inspection: 11 March 2015

Date of last inspection: 30 November 2009

School's unique reference number: 118634

Headteacher: Carl Fitter

Inspector's name and number: Tricia Martin NS105

School context

Wouldham All Saints is an expanding voluntary controlled primary school that serves the village of Wouldham and surrounding areas near Rochester. Its 161 pupils are from a predominantly White British background. The number of pupils with Special Educational Needs (SEN) and those for whom the school receives a pupil premium is below average. The leadership of the school has remained stable although there have been staff and governor changes since the last inspection.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Wouldham All Saints as a Church of England school are outstanding

- The importance of pupil and family wellbeing is demonstrated in the appointment of a Spiritual Director
- Excellent behaviour, based on Christian values, permeates the school
- The progress of pupils is rigorously monitored and, where interventions are necessary, progress is rapid
- The 'Fruits of the Spirit' are demonstrated by all members of the school community

Areas to improve

- Include differentiated activities in Religious Education (RE) lessons supported by developmental marking to raise standards in teaching and learning in RE

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

The school creates a warm, welcoming atmosphere through promotion of its core Christian values which are based on the 'Fruits of the Spirit' from the New Testament in the Bible. All pupils are equally respected and valued as children of God. Consequently, children feel safe and secure at school. One child commented that "This is the best school ever." This results very good attendance, as the pupils want to come to school and in the school being massively oversubscribed. In the recent past, there has been a dip in pupils' attainment. The school has been quick to recognise this and has put in place successful intervention programmes which have brought about rapid progress. Excellent relationships in the school are a result of living out the 'Fruits of the Spirit'. Prayer permeates the life of the school and reflection is encouraged successfully. Pupils talk of how much they value these opportunities. The environment of the school supports pupils' spiritual, moral and social development as they are challenged to think of others in all aspects of the school's life. Behaviour is excellent and the pupils have a strong sense of right and wrong because the school sets clear expectations. School visits and visitors are a common feature of learning for all pupils, for example, the visits by the Friends of Chernobyl. This has contributed to the pupils' social and cultural development. Families of all faiths and none are treated equally and valued as members of the school community. RE makes a considerable contribution to the life of the school through the planned learning experiences of the pupils.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding

Collective worship is exceptionally well planned and led. A sense of expectation is created at the start of worship. Interactive activities fully engage the pupils. Consequently, pupils enjoy the variety of experiences offered to them. 'I enjoyed the challenge that was set in worship on Wednesday, it made it more real', commented a pupil. As a result of outstanding engagement, collective worship plays an important part in the life of the school. It draws the community together through shared experiences such as Easter workshops in which both parents and pupils are involved. The 'Fruits of the Spirit', which permeate the life of the school, are understood and articulated by everyone. Pupils enthusiastically explain what they mean. Prayer opportunities are offered throughout the day and pupils speak confidently about leading prayer. The Worship Warriors, a group whose role is to contribute to the planning and leading of school worship, have a waiting list in excess of one hundred. The pupils' understanding of the person of Jesus Christ and His relationship within the Holy Trinity are age appropriate. Their opinions about worship are valued and contribute to appropriate adjustments made to worship. Every opportunity to enrich children's spiritual development and promote the school's Christian distinctiveness is acted upon appropriately.

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

Leaders share a strong explicit Christian vision for the school. Its impact can be seen in the rapid progress made by children and in very good attendance. The appointment of a Spiritual Director, who supports all members of the school community, is innovative. Her work supports pupil wellbeing, and consequently supports the raising of teaching and learning standards, particularly in RE. The Christian ethos is a regular agenda item for governors and forms a part of all strategic planning, thereby underlining its importance. Teachers are developed and encouraged to take on roles of responsibility preparing them to take on future leadership roles. The partnership with the local church is very strong. The school holds keys for the church building and uses this access to enrich its curriculum whenever appropriate. The local priest plays an active part in school life. The school and church share a mutually beneficial relationship. The school actively engages with diocesan events. RE and CW meet legal requirements.

