



## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### **Fleggburgh Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

Main Road  
Fleggburgh  
Great Yarmouth  
NR29 3AG

**Diocese: Norwich**

Local authority: Norfolk  
Dates of inspection: 18<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Date of last inspection: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2009  
School's unique reference number: 121081  
Headteacher: Pam Spychal  
Inspector's name and number: Michael Kee 316

#### **School context**

This is a small school of 29 pupils in Key Stages 1 and 2 with two full-time teachers including the head teacher, a part time teacher and four teaching assistants. The village church is within easy walking distance of the school.

#### **The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Fleggburgh School as a Church of England school are outstanding**

Pupils and staff enjoy excellent working and caring relationships which are clearly underpinned by Christian values. These form the basis of all the school stands for and teaches.

#### **Established strengths**

- Clear Christian focus provided by the headteacher, governors and incumbent
- Strong support for the school from parents and the village community
- Excellent relationships among staff and pupils
- Caring support for children with learning and physical needs

#### **Focus for development**

- Continue to develop the role of pupils in the presentation of collective worship
- Develop the idea of a 'prayer corner' to display pupils' prayers and reflection ideas
- Build on the established partnership with the village population to widen pupils' opportunities for learning and service to others

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

The school clearly declares its dedication to the education and welfare of all the pupils with a cross on the wall of its entrance lobby and a positive declaration of commitment to promoting Christian values through the experiences offered to learners. Relationships among the children are excellent and show care and concern for each other as well as a very strong interest in helping others outside the school. This is evident in the school's support for a school in Malawi. Pupils instigate fund raising and send the proceeds to the school in Africa and other local charities. Pupils and teachers agree their code of conduct together and it is evident that the children take responsibility for their school very seriously, showing real

commitment to helping each other, respecting their teachers and other adults and taking a pride in their work and activities. The children are very positive in what they say about their school – ‘I love the school and all my friends....lessons challenge you....other children are kind to me’. Pupils speak very positively about going to church for festival services and learning about the building, the vicar’s robes, and experiencing taking part in ceremonies such as baptism and a wedding. Pupils also enjoy a range of opportunities for clubs and sport after school every day and they all learn French and can access music tuition. Parents spoke very positively about the school and the support their children receive which enables their good progress. Their children’s comments support their faith in the school: - ‘enjoy all our lessons....everybody is friendly....happy school’. The impact of the care and support which the school offers all pupils is clearly based in Christian values and this significantly impacts on their spiritual and moral development.

### **The impact of collective worship on the school community is good**

Collective worship is an important part of each day for pupils and staff who all attend and who are involved in planning and presentation of worship. Members of the governing body are part of the local area ‘Open the Book’ team and the pupils speak enthusiastically about being able to join in these weekly occasions. They say, ‘we love Open the Book and we learn about what happens in the bible’. The incumbent contributes regularly to leading collective worship in school and by involving the children in festival services in church throughout the year. On the day of the inspection a member of staff was leading the worship and pupils began with the greeting to which all the children responded positively. The Bible story provided an opportunity for pupils to actively take part in searching for the lost sheep and to then reflect on the story’s application to their own lives. This they did very thoughtfully and commented – ‘if someone is lost, God will search for them and help them.....God will always be there for you.....God loves every living thing’. Everyone sang the worship song, ‘He’ll be there’ enthusiastically and a pupil concluded with ‘May the light of Christ shine in all our hearts’, to which everyone responded with ‘Amen’.

Pupils reflected well on the story with comments such as ‘God cares for us all even if lost....we will never be forgotten.....keep on trying and never give up’. They spoke enthusiastically about being able to help choose the songs and prayers and being able to write prayers regularly for their class assembly. Displaying these prayers and reflections could support further thinking by younger pupils. Pupils would welcome further opportunities to be involved in presenting worship. Governors are involved in looking at the school’s Christian life and they monitor and evaluate collective worship and discuss this at their meetings.

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

The leadership of the headteacher and her commitment to the school’s church foundation and its Christian ethos is outstanding. This combines with the unequivocal commitment of the governing body, working in close partnership, to facilitate significant support for the welfare and learning of children. Staff are supported and valued and are helped to access opportunities for learning and development which they appreciate and value. The head teacher and governors actively promote the school’s church status and provide clear direction and resourcing to maintain and develop the commitment to Christian values. This commitment is acknowledged by the head teacher, staff and parents who work effectively together for the welfare and development of the pupils, both academically and spiritually. Governors are regularly involved in the life of the school, attending worship in school and at the village church, supporting staff well-being and encouraging their opportunities for professional development. They are also involved in monitoring teaching and learning and collective worship.

Parents support the school through fundraising and by attending collective worship both in school and at church. They feel welcomed on these occasions and make their support for the school very clear when asked for their opinions. Children and staff welcome elderly village residents to Harvest and Easter teas and this good relationship between school and village is strongly supported by the governors and staff.

The incumbent is a strong supporter of the school, leading worship, helping the children to understand the significance of the church and being part of school trips.

