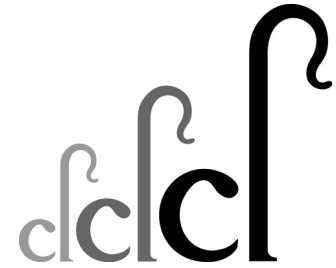


Staveley Church of England Primary School
Brow Lane
Staveley
Kendal
Cumbria
LA8 9PH

Diocese: Carlisle
Local authority: Cumbria
Dates of inspection: 18/03/10
Date of last inspection: 15/09/06
School's URN: 112264
Headteacher: Mike Prince
Inspector's name & number: Penny Hollander 526



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Board of Education
"Every Child Matters To God."

School context

Staveley Church of England School is situated in a village location in South Cumbria. It draws pupils from a broad catchment area. Families come from the village itself, the isolated rural area of Kentmere as well as from the nearby town of Kendal. Pupils are from mixed socio economic backgrounds and the vast majority are of white British ethnicity. A number of pupils join the school at times other than in reception.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Staveley CE School as a Church of England school are good

The school has a strong Christian character. This is known, understood and supported by all stakeholders. Christian values underpin school life and have a very good impact on children's spiritual, moral and social development. The links with the local church are very good and have an important influence in encouraging and nourishing children's knowledge and understanding of Christian faith.

Established strengths

- Excellent relationships between all members of the school community
- Children's personal development and well-being
- Close and effective links between the school, church and local community

Focus for development

- Involve pupils in planning and leading collective worship
- Ensure all stakeholders are involved in the regular review of the the school's Christian values
- Develop links with the world wide church

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

Children are very happy, confident and secure within the school environment. They say that they feel valued and special and know that they are unique individuals in God's eyes. The inclusive nature of the school and the personal development and well being of all pupils is one of its strongest features. The organisation of children into vertically aged family groups reinforces the school's commitment to ensure that all pupils look after and take responsibility for each other. The excellent relationships that exist between all members of the school community are a continuing strength. Pupils feel well supported by all staff and are appreciative of all the different learning opportunities that they have. They particularly mention those outside the classroom and speak enthusiastically about the forest school project and the recent multi faith visit by the older children to Liverpool. Stakeholders identify how Christian values of love, care, compassion, respect and concern for others are fundamental to school life. Children can articulate how God's care for them helps them to treat others in the same way. The close links with the church, through the vicar and other church members, for collective worship and other school activities emphasises the school's commitment to its Christian foundation. Children clearly know the difference between right and wrong and say that when disputes arise they are dealt with quickly, fairly and in a spirit of compassion. Pupils are keenly aware of the needs of others less fortunate than themselves and make a positive contribution through charity fundraising locally, nationally and globally. The school environment strongly supports children's spiritual development through a range of symbols and reflective displays of children's work throughout the school as well as areas for quiet reflection in the outside space.

The impact of collective worship of the school community is good

The children enjoy worship and are keen to answer questions and sing with real enthusiasm. They listen carefully and show insight in applying what they have learnt to their understanding of Christian faith and values. One example is their response about humility. "It's wrong to boast. We need to use what we have to help others, just like St Francis did." Opportunity for reflection during worship aids children's spiritual development. They also appreciate being actively involved in role play and reading prayers. They say this increases their understanding of Christian values and teaching. Worship is inclusive and affirms both pupils and adults regardless of religious affiliation or none. The school has successfully addressed issues from the last inspection and has significantly developed planning and evaluation of worship times. Collective worship areas in each classroom are a powerful reminder of the importance the school attaches to this area of school life. However, opportunities for pupils to plan and lead worship are currently limited. The regular contributions of the vicar and other visitors to school worship reinforce and widen children's understanding of Christian faith. School services held in church at significant times in the church year also increases their awareness of Anglican tradition. These occasions are well supported by parents, governors and members of the local community. However, the school recognises that children's knowledge of the global nature of the church is currently limited and that this is an area for development.

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

The school leadership has a clear vision for the school based on Christian values. The governors strongly support the headteacher and ensure that the school's distinctive Christian character informs both policy and practice. However, not all stakeholders are currently engaged in reviewing the school's Christian values and this is an area for development so that these are explicitly understood in the whole school context. The leadership for collective worship and religious education is good and contributes very well to the school's distinctive Christian character. Named governors now monitor provision in these two areas which successfully addresses an area for development from the last inspection. School leaders are aware of future development needs of the school as a church school and address these through professional development training for staff and governors. Parents are very supportive of the school and show this through their involvement with many activities, including those involving the church and school fund raising. Parents know that their viewpoints are important and that any issues they identify through discussion, questionnaire responses or online through the school website are addressed. Pupils enjoy the responsibilities they are given, particularly through the school council. Ideas for improving the school in a "Suggestions Box" are regularly discussed and acted upon as appropriate. The close links between school, church and local community are a continuing strength. This interdependence is beneficial to all. Partnership between the school and wider communities are also strong and are continually being developed, particularly through the school's innovative website.

Staveley CE Primary School, March 2010 Brow Lane, Staveley, Kendal Cumbria LA8 9PH