



## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools Report

### **Bramley Church of England (Aided) Infant School**

Birtley Road  
Bramley, Guildford  
GU5 0HX

**Previous SIAMS grade:** Outstanding

**Current inspection grade:** **Outstanding**

**Diocese:** Guildford

Local authority: Surrey

Dates of inspection: 12 May, 2015

Date of last inspection: 29 April, 2010

School's unique reference number: 125243

Headteacher: Elaine Spick

Inspector's name and number: Dr Peter Simpson 192

#### **School context**

Bramley Church of England (Aided) Infant School is a small school with 84 children on roll. An additional 56 children attend the preschool which is managed by the governing body. Most learners are of White British Heritage. The percentage of learners with special educational needs or disabilities and those eligible for pupil premium is below the national average. The headteacher was appointed during this academic year. The school was last inspected by Ofsted in November, 2014 when it was judged to be good.

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

- The school's values which are grounded in Christian teaching permeate everything which the school does.
- Outcomes for learners are good and improving ensuring children are well-prepared for the next stage in their education.
- Religious Education is outstanding and is central to the work of the school.
- Learners' understanding of Christianity and its relevance to their lives is outstanding.
- Learners' relationships with each other and with adults are excellent.
- The school has an important part in the life of the parish and wider community and is held in high regard.

#### **Areas to improve**

- Consider developing collective worship to give groups of learners the opportunity to worship and reflect in smaller groups.
- Ensure that the governing body receive regular updates on the evaluation of collective worship.

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

The school's mission statement of 'Learning and Growing together with God as Our Guide' is underpinned by distinctly Christian values. These values permeate the life of the school and are understood by staff, governors, parents and the learners themselves. Learners respect and value each other which results in exemplary behaviour and attitudes to learning. Learners are particularly enthusiastic and excited about religious education and cite it as their favourite subject.

Recent data analysis shows that learners are making good progress across the curriculum and attainment has risen during this academic year. Learners are well-prepared for their transition to the next stage in their education both in terms of attainment in the core subjects but also in terms of their confidence, resilience and behaviours for learning. Learners eligible for pupil premium and those with special educational needs are making progress commensurate with their peers due to the school's focused interventions.

Learners' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is highly effective due to a well-structured religious education curriculum, a well-planned worship programme and highly relevant school values which nurture and appropriately challenge all learners.

The partnership with the parish of Holy Trinity and the wider community is strong with the school reaching out to church, parents/carers and other schools whilst the parish and the community are fully involved with the school.

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

Worship is central to the life of the school and is valued by the whole school community. Values introduced through worship are lived out in the school and permeate through the whole curriculum. Learners enjoy worship and participate with enthusiasm and understanding. They are encouraged to reflect on what they have heard and how it might influence their daily lives. The school's values are central to worship and are supported by appropriate bible stories. Planning for collective worship is thorough and provides extensive opportunities for learners to experience a wide range of appropriate worship styles. The vicar of Holy Trinity has been an important integral part of the planning process, advising on Anglican tradition and practice and has led worship both in school and in the parish church. The 'Open the Book' initiative has broadened learners' experience and has led to the school developing its own 'Children Open the Book' initiative where they select bible stories for sharing. The school has sensitively introduced the Eucharist for the first time this year which has been enthusiastically received by learners. The school has a central role in the parish and is highly regarded.

There is regular evaluation of the quality of worship which enables staff, governors, parents and learners to express views and suggestions for further improvement which are acted upon by the school.

The school meets the statutory requirements for collective worship.

### **The effectiveness of the religious education is outstanding**

Standards in religious education, as verified by work scrutiny, pupil tracking data and direct observation, are above those expected nationally, with learners demonstrating a high level of understanding of both core knowledge and the associated skills and attitudes.

Learners are very enthusiastic and inspired by religious education and cite it as their favourite subject. Evidence shows teaching in religious education is outstanding and it is taught by two highly talented and innovative staff who have been very involved in revising the Guildford Diocesan Guidelines for Religious Education. The curriculum is well planned and challenging

whilst providing opportunities for learners to reflect on their learning. Religious Education is integral to the learners' strong spiritual, moral, social and cultural development which enables them to be confident, sensitive and respectful of others and their cultures.

The parish church of Holy Trinity is an excellent resource for the school's RE programme and is innovatively used to provide learners with new experiences which develop their understanding of Anglican traditions such as baptism and marriage services.

Assessment of RE is excellent and highly focused on ensuring learners achieve well and receive appropriate support to move on to the next step of their learning.

The school meets the statutory requirement for religious education.

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

All involved in this school have a strong sense of Christian purpose. The school's values drive everything it does and are shared by governors, headteacher, staff, parents and the learners themselves. The headteacher, ably supported by the assistant headteacher, has a thorough understanding of the school's performance and has designed with the governors and staff a clear plan for further improvement which maintains and enhances the Christian ethos. The school's Christian character is central to the work of the school and is clearly appreciated by parents and the learners. All adults are excellent role models, demonstrating the school's values in their interactions with learners and each other. New staff are appropriately inducted to ensure that they are both supported and are well-prepared to further enhance the values of the school.

The evaluation of the school is robust and involves a range of stakeholders including the learners themselves. Leaders act upon the evaluation and demonstrate a determination to ensure that the values so clearly articulated and understood by the learners remain at heart of everything the school does. The Governing Body and Leadership Team have a clear vision for the future which has at its centre the school's Christian distinctiveness.

The areas for development in the last report have been appropriately and successfully addressed by the school.

SIAMS report May 2015 Bramley Church of England Infant School, Bramley. GU5 0HX