

St. Paul's Peel Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Stocksfield Drive
Little Hulton
Worsley
Manchester
Lancashire
M38 9RB

Diocese: Manchester

Local authority: Salford
Dates of inspection: Tuesday 3rd July 2007
Date of last inspection: February 2001
School's unique reference number: 105941
Headteacher: Mrs Rose O'Gara
Inspector's name and number: Mrs Gail E Branch

School context

The school serves an area with significant socio-economic disadvantage. Half the pupils are eligible for free school meals and the proportion of SEN pupils is slightly higher than average. Nearly all pupils are of white British heritage. The school is larger than average.

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of St Paul's Peel as a Church of England school are outstanding

On entering this inclusive school the very strong Christian ethos is immediately apparent and pervades all aspects of school life, from symbols, artefacts and displays through to outstanding relationships, behaviour, attitudes and leadership. The school strongly promotes Christian values and the personal development and well-being of pupils is outstanding as is the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Established strengths

- The strong and explicitly acknowledged Christian ethos, particularly evident in the exceptional quality of relationships which are characterised by Christian love, respect and trust.
- The head teachers' outstanding leadership and the clear vision for Christian distinctiveness shared by staff and governors.
- Excellent daily acts of worship are central to the life of the school.
- Pupils are motivated, well behaved and very eager to learn.

Focus for development

- Continue to build on the very good links already established with the church community and the new vicar; encouraging more children to attend church services.

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

This outstanding school meets the needs of learners extremely well due to the excellent care, guidance and support the pupils receive and the school's commitment to its strong Christian values. The school fully supports the ECM agenda and the Mission Statement is at the heart of the school. The quality of relationships is exceptional as is the personal development and well-being of the pupils. Parents, visitors to the school and governors speak in glowing terms about St Paul's and have confidence that their views are listened to and acted upon.

The School Council makes a meaningful contribution so that pupils know that their views are taken into account. They also feel confident to go to any member of staff with their problems, secure in the knowledge that issues will be followed up. Parents like and appreciate the ethos of this church school and are very keen for their children to be taught in an establishment where Christian values are important in addition to their academic progress. All members of the school community know they are valued and appreciated. There is a weekly praise assembly which is valued and enjoyed by the learners. Attitudes and behaviour management are excellent. The personal development of the children is enhanced by frequent contact with the local church community and by their charitable projects. The pupils look forward to visits from members of the church community, they talk enthusiastically about their visits to church and they speak with compassion about their efforts to support people in both the local and wider community. There is excellent use of prayer, with prayers during Collective Worship and during the school day. R.E. makes a valuable contribution to pupils' personal development particularly through promoting respect for different religions and cultures.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding.

Worship is outstanding; it plays a central role in the life of the school and celebrates the school's Christian foundation. The children responded very positively to questions about Collective Worship, about their favourite hymns, about the different approaches and how they enjoy this important aspect of school life. They participate very enthusiastically and clearly value the positive way that they are invited to contribute and take part. The use of personal prayers and reflection time play an important part in instilling Christian values and are appreciated by the children and staff. Great care is taken to ensure that acts of worship take place in a well-organised and peaceful environment, making a valuable contribution to the pupils' spiritual development. Pupils' spiritual development is also enhanced by their excellent standard of singing and their wide repertoire of songs. The use of the church at specific times of the year for worship and displays of work further enhances the quality of provision.

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

The head teacher provides outstanding, strong, effective and spiritual leadership and is very well supported by staff and governors. Mutual support is given by the head teacher and staff both professionally and on a personal level, which demonstrates the trust and respect they have for one another. There is also a very positive, supportive and productive relationship and partnership with the local church community. There is excellent involvement from a church army member, who visits school weekly and who supports musical events and religious themes in the school, and from the vicar who also visits the school on a regular basis. Foundation governors, in particular, are very supportive of the school, which is greatly appreciated. "We aim to teach, support and encourage each other, recognising and developing the gifts God has given us all" is at the heart of the school. "It is the people that make the difference rather than the physical resources." {Ofsted Report}

SIAS report July 2007 St Paul Peel CE Primary School, Little Hulton, Manchester M38 9 RB