



CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
ARCHBISHOPS' COUNCIL  
EDUCATION DIVISION



The **Methodist Church** 

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

### Redmile Church of England Primary School

Belvoir Road, Redmile  
Nottingham  
NG13 0GL

#### Diocese: Leicester

Local authority: Leicestershire

Date of inspection: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014

Date of last inspection: 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009

School's unique reference number: 120154

Headteacher: Julie Hopkins

Inspector's name and number: Liz Youngman 465

#### School context

Redmile Primary School is a small school of 65 children, aged 4-11 years, taught in three mixed age classes. The vast majority of children are from White British backgrounds. There are below average numbers of children supported by the pupil premium grant. The proportion of children having special educational needs or a disability is below average. Children attend the school from Redmile and the surrounding villages. The attractive school buildings have been extended over the years and recently enhanced with the addition of dedicated office space and staff room extension. This has meant additional teaching space for group work. Whilst staffing is stable, the RE co-ordinator was on maternity leave at the time of the inspection.

#### The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Redmile CE Primary School as a Church of England school are outstanding.

- Exceptional involvement of learners in planning, leading and evaluating high quality collective worship impacts very well on their spiritual development
- Leadership at all levels, including the Headteacher, governors, RE co-ordinator and teachers, have worked together well to promote the school's Christian distinctiveness
- High quality Religious Education strongly impacts children's understanding of Christian values
- Prayer has an important and significant place in the life of the school

#### Areas to improve

- Review key documentation to ensure a closer match between the current excellent provision and what is written in policy statements, giving consideration to making more explicit reference to the school's commitment to Christian values
- Ensure that all induction procedures include appropriate training to ensure continuity of established outstanding practice in RE and collective worship

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

The Christian character of the school contributes highly to the outstanding academic achievement, personal development and well-being of learners regardless of their ability or background. All are known and valued as individuals by the Headteacher and other staff. Attendance is excellent because children are so eager to be at school. There are tangibly warm relationships between all members of the school community. One child summed this up; *"We are a big, kind and caring family!"* High quality RE and Christian values taught across a creative curriculum contribute exceptionally well to the Christian character of the school. Statutory requirements for RE are fully met. Learners are enabled to make links between Christian values and Biblical teaching. For example in one lesson, very young children participated in a role play about Joseph needing to forgive his brothers. Through skilful teaching, clear links were made with the need to say sorry and forgive others in daily life. Links with other schools, including one in Tanzania and one in Leicester city, and visits to places of worship, ensure that children have a high degree of understanding and respect for diversity and difference. Parents report that children continue to use school prayers at other times in their lives too, showing the strong impact of the Christian nature of the school. There are frequent opportunities for the children to be involved in supporting charities including the annual Viking Challenge which raises considerable amounts of money for the school and the chosen charity and involves the whole school and village communities. Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of learners is outstanding.

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

Great value is placed on collective worship with prayer being a very important feature of school life. There is a focus on prayer throughout the school day; a majority of children can remember the school prayer, Lord's prayer and lunchtime and end of the day prayers. The impact of the high quality collective worship is readily and clearly articulated by learners and parents. This extends to a wider impact in the life of the village and the local church; the school's team of RE Mentors of Pupils (MPs) lead on developments such as Valentine wreaths delivered to village houses and RE artwork displays to support worship in the church. Children participate enthusiastically in worship including praying, either spontaneously or using their own written prayers, singing with gusto or listening quietly and reflecting. In an act of worship observed, some Year 6 boys led the rest of the school by singing solos enthusiastically; all present joined in with actions to show how they "let their little lights shine!" There was a strong focus on Jesus as the light of the world and central to the Christian faith. Children volunteer to organise and lead worship on a regular basis with older children involving younger ones in their dramatic story telling, songs and prayers. Weekly evaluations are completed by children and other adults including teachers and governors. It is surprising that this outstanding practice is known in school as "assembly" rather than worship. One child said *"In assemblies we talk to God and it's called prayers"*. School leaders have benefitted from very good support from the diocese in planning the themes for worship throughout the school year.

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

Self-evaluation involves all groups within the school community with the Headteacher, foundation governors and the incumbent taking a lead on ensuring Christian distinctiveness meets learners' needs. All staff and governors are involved in the development of an effective school improvement plan on an annual basis. Children, parents and teachers are clear that the excellent leadership of the Headteacher has been "pivotal" in the development of this exceptional Church school; she consistently lives out and promotes a vision for the school that is rooted in Christian values. In partnership with governors, she has ensured that a commitment to preserving the Christian vision is explicit in the partnership work with other

Vale schools and in the proposal to become an academy as part of the diocesan multi-academy trust. She has ensured that statutory requirements are fully met and that points for development from the previous inspection have been addressed. Parents were keen to describe how the Christian values of the school impact on them and their children through the collective worship, such as weekly special assemblies, harvest, Christmas and Easter services, held in school and the local church. Children also benefit from a weekly well-attended Christian club, Lively Hour, run by the local Baptist minister. One parent said, “*We feel privileged to be part of such a unique and caring environment.*” The Headteacher ensures appropriate professional development of senior staff looking towards future leadership opportunities. Key documentation, such as the mission statement, would benefit from a review to reflect the school’s on-going commitment to its Christian foundation.

SIAMS report January 2014

Redmile Church of England Primary School NG13 0GL



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### SIAMS Judgement Recording Form (JRF)

This form is to be attached to the main SIAMS report and returned to the diocese in which the school is situated and to the National Society.

School Name	Redmile Church of England Primary School
School Address	Belvoir Road, Redmile, Nottingham. NG13 0GL
Diocese	Leicester
School URN	120154
Date of Inspection	31 <sup>st</sup> January 2014
NS Inspector's Number	465
Type of Church School	Voluntary Controlled
Number of Pupils	65
Phase of Education	Primary
Name of Critical Reader	Stephen Gleave
Has Diocesan Quality Assurance been obtained for this Report? Yes	

	Rating 1 - 4
<b>How distinctive and effective is the school as a Church School?</b>	<b>1</b>
How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?	1
What is the impact of collective worship on the school community?	1
How effective are the leadership and management of the school, as a church school?	1
The school meets the statutory requirements for collective acts of worship	<b>Yes</b>
The school meets the statutory requirement for religious education	<b>Yes</b>