



## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

**Bradley C.E. (Voluntary Controlled) Infant and Nursery School**  
**Sherwood Avenue,**  
**Bradley,**  
**Huddersfield,**  
**HD2 1PQ**  
**Wakefield Diocese**  
**Local Authority: Kirklees**  
**S.I.A.S. Inspection: 5<sup>th</sup> June 2007**  
Date of last inspection: March 2002  
School's unique reference number: 107704  
Headteacher: Mrs Z. Whitworth  
S.I.A.S. Inspector: NS129 Mr. J.W. Bradley

### School Context

Bradley Infant and Nursery School has 143 pupils on roll, plus 48 in the nursery and principally serves a large estate close to Huddersfield. The majority of the pupils are white British, but of those from other ethnic groups, a significant number speak English as a second language. The headteacher has been in post since September 2004.

### **The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Bradley Infant and Nursery School as a Church of England School are good.**

This is a good Church School with an overt and caring Christian ethos at its centre. Relationships throughout are good between staff, pupils, parents, headteacher, governors, church and clergy. There is a clear consensus that church school aspects bring an extra dimension to the school's principal purpose of creating an atmosphere in which every pupil is given the opportunity to thrive. This is achieved by an openness regarding the Christian foundation.

### Established strengths

- The atmosphere of Christian love so evident throughout the school
- The impact upon the whole school of the calm, highly appropriate atmosphere during Collective Worship.
- The relationship with its church, plus a highly supportive and challenging governing body.

### Focus for development

- Staff and governors to develop a formal policy of evaluation of what should be distinctive about their Church School.
- To complete the work already begun upon the evaluation of the impact of Collective Worship.

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

The prevailing atmosphere in this school is one of caring co-operation founded upon Christian love. Children say they are cared for and that 'everyone is very kind'. 'They help us' is how the pupils see their school. Displays in classrooms and elsewhere are evidence of a Church School where all are respected and valued. Relationships throughout are good and the pupils are polite and welcoming to visitors. The planning and teaching of Religious Education are afforded high profile and have impact beyond the RE Lesson. The school, through its RE teaching provides a Christian upbringing for its pupils and the spiritual, social, moral and cultural development provided for them sustains the school in all that it does. Links with its church, via a highly committed incumbent and church members being regular helpers in school, show the pupils how important its church is and how everyone can benefit from sharing and co-operation. Prayer is an integral part of the life of this school, including staff prayers, those said at governor's meetings and by pupils. Parents, through questionnaires, are regularly asked for their views but these do not, as yet, have a church school component.

**The impact of Collective Worship on the school community is good.**

Collective Worship is an integral part of the daily life of Bradley Infant and Nursery School. The atmosphere during worship is one of calm and highly relevant participation by staff and pupils. All staff regularly attend, thus giving worship a proper sense of a whole community being together with a common purpose. This purpose is that of mutual support founded upon Christian principles of love and care for each other. The incumbent and a church lay worker provide the pupils with Anglican aspects of worship, as does the following of the church's year. Other visitors, including a church based Puppet Theatre, also serve to give the pupils experience of varied types of worship. The worship is well planned and recorded and work has begun on a system for evaluation of its impact. The clear aim of this work is to develop and improve the quality of worship offered to all. Prayer and reflection are important components of the worship and this is enhanced by the appropriate use of candles and other artefacts. The singing, particularly for a group of such young children, is outstanding and gives a real sense of joy and enjoyment to the occasion. A weekly parent's service is well attended and has the effect of further developing the sense of community.

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

Mutual respect between all those responsible for the management of this school is very evident. Foundation Governors see the importance of their role, but do not, as yet, formally evaluate the church school aspects of how the school is developing. The school benefits from a high level of support from its church and incumbent and as a result pupils know their vicar and that they attend a church school. The headteacher is highly regarded by governors who appreciate the way the school is constantly developing and improving. All those concerned with management are very clear regarding the fact that this is a church school and it is this open and honest approach which is so impressive and leads to there being no doubt about the school's Christian purpose. The governors are well led by a committed chair who is supported by a governing body and staff who truly believe in and support the benefits to pupils of Bradley Infant and Nursery being a church school. The school states that each person is created in God's image and all should be cared for' and it is this view which affects so much of what is done for each individual pupil. The result is a school, with Christianity at its centre, where all feel cared for, loved and supported.