

Brookfield Primary School

Inspection report

Unique Reference Number	100011
Local Authority	Camden
Inspection number	276232
Inspection dates	10–11 July 2006
Reporting inspector	Tusha Chakraborti

This inspection of the school was carried out under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.

Type of school	Primary
School category	Community
Age range of pupils	3–11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number on roll	
School	
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair	Ms Sarah Carrier Ms Dilys Hillman
Date of previous school inspection	Not previously inspected
School address	Chester Road London N19 5DH
Telephone number	02072729627
Fax number	02075610056

Age group	3–11
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Introduction

The inspection was carried out by three Additional Inspectors.

Description of the school

This is a larger-than-average primary school and has a very wide range of ethnic groups. Over a quarter of the pupils speak English as an additional language; significantly higher than the national average. Very few are at an early stage of learning English; they are mainly in the Foundation Stage. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties is above average and those eligible for free school meals is much higher than average. A few pupils are asylum seekers, refugees or travellers. Attainment on entry is below average.

Key for inspection grades

Grade 1	Outstanding
Grade 2	Good
Grade 3	Satisfactory
Grade 4	Inadequate

Overall effectiveness of the school

Grade:

What the school should do to improve further

andmiddot; Improve pupils' achievement, particularly in English and mathematics in order to raise standards. andmiddot; Ensure that teaching is consistently good so that it promotes good achievement. andmiddot; Ensure that the new assessment system is implemented successfully to track pupils' progress more effectively. andmiddot; Ensure that marking of pupils' work guides them consistently so as to improve their work.

Achievement and standards

Grade:

Personal development and well-being

Grade:

Quality of provision

Teaching and learning

Grade:

The quality of teaching and learning are satisfactory overall although there is some good teaching. It is particularly good in the Nursery where children are given many opportunities to develop good personal and social skills. In the most successful lessons, teachers display good subject knowledge. Teachers plan well to engage pupils with interesting activities and ensure that they understand what they are expected to learn. The management of behaviour is generally good and pupils are keen to learn. Lessons are usually calm and orderly and staff value pupils' contributions to class discussions. As a result, pupils work well together. In some lessons, however, tasks are not well matched to the varying learning needs of all pupils and some are not challenged sufficiently to ensure they achieve as well as they should.

A more rigorous assessment system has been put into place recently and this is beginning to enable teachers to provide pupils with work that more closely matches their needs. Marking of pupils' work is not consistent in suggesting to pupils how best to improve their work. Teaching assistants are appropriately trained and support for the pupils with learning difficulties is satisfactory.

Curriculum and other activities

Grade:

The curriculum is good. It covers all subjects and is generally well matched to pupils needs, although the provision for more able pupils is at an early stage of development.

An innovative pilot project in Years 1 and 2 uses topic work to enrich pupils' experience of the curriculum. This links effectively with national initiatives, such as 'Excellence and Enjoyment' and, focuses on developing creativity and investigative activities to boost pupils' learning. The Year 6 residential trip and the International Evening help pupils to develop independence and celebrate their diverse backgrounds.

Pupils have good opportunities to learn information and communication technology skills. There is a good emphasis on pupils' personal, social and health education. The school provides an outstanding range of extra-curricular opportunities which are attended well. The provision for the pupils with learning difficulties is satisfactory. Planning is good in the Foundation Stage where it ensures that all aspects of learning are covered in a variety of interesting ways.

Care, guidance and support

Grade:

Care, guidance and support for pupils are good. Effective procedures exist to support pupils when they are enrolled and when they transfer to other schools. Health and safety procedures are reviewed regularly and child protection procedures are very secure. Regular risk assessment checks are carried out. Assessment arrangements are improving and the school is making increasingly effective use of test results to improve standards. The school works well with parents, volunteers, learning mentors and a variety of external agencies to ensure that all pupils, including the most vulnerable, are valued and well catered for. The behaviour policy has been implemented effectively to improve the behaviour and attitudes to learning, especially of those pupils who present significant challenges. There are strong links with secondary schools and the school provides parents with useful information about the options available when their children change schools.

Leadership and management

Grade:

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Text from letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection

Pupils

We would like to thank you for your help when we visited your school. We enjoyed talking to you and watching you work. It was a great pleasure to hear that you really enjoy coming to school.

Your headteacher and teachers work hard to make sure that your work gets better. We were pleased to see that you behave well, work hard and do your best. You know how to stay safe and healthy and take part in many physical activities. Your teachers rightly think that your work, especially in English and mathematics, could be better. We have asked them to ensure that you learn well in every lesson. We have also asked them to check how well you learn even more carefully, and tell you what you need to do in order to improve your work further.

We were pleased to see that you get a lot of help and encouragement from the teachers and other staff. We are confident that you will continue to work hard, behave well and come to school every day. We wish you all the best.

Yours sincerely

Tusha Chakraboti

Lead Inspector