

Millennium Primary School

Inspection report

Unique Reference Number	100111
Local Authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	276251
Inspection dates	25–26 January 2006
Reporting inspector	Glynis Bradley-Peat

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	Sara Apps Ms Amanda Dennison
Date of previous school inspection	Not previously inspected
School address	50 John Harrison Way Greenwich London SE10 0BG
Telephone number	020 8858 0394
Fax number	020 8858 0923

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Introduction

The inspection was carried out by three Additional Inspectors.

Description of the school

Millennium is an inner city primary school of above average size. It opened five years ago when it was re-sited as part of the Greenwich peninsula rejuvenation project. The school attracts pupils from a wide mix of council, social and private housing. The percentage of pupils eligible for free school meals is above average. An above average number of pupils are from minority ethnic groups and speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties is about average, but the number of pupils with statements is above average. The school has a special designated provision for six children on the autistic spectrum.

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

* Continue to improve the provision in mathematics through effective monitoring in order to raise standards.

Achievement and standards

Grade:

Personal development and well-being

Grade:

Quality of provision

Teaching and learning

Grade:

The quality of teaching and learning is consistently good. In the Foundation Stage group activities and resources are well planned to meet different needs and motivate pupils to enjoy their learning. Teaching in Years 1 to 6 is good overall and includes examples of outstanding practice. Teachers have a good understanding of how pupils learn and provide them with a good range of opportunities to listen, observe and investigate for themselves. This was seen to particularly good effect in a Year 6 mathematics lesson in which the pupils made excellent progress in problem-solving. Teachers' questions deepen pupils' understanding and good use is made of the school's target-setting and assessment systems. The school recognised that there was an issue with mathematics subject knowledge last year due to the absences of key teachers. This impacted adversely on test results and is now being addressed well through the school's effective monitoring systems. Pupils are invariably eager learners and behave well. Their positive attitudes make a significant contribution to the improving standards in the school. Pupils with learning difficulties, and those learning English as an additional language, receive good support that enables them to progress well. Support staff are well trained and play an integral part in contributing to pupils' learning in lessons.

Curriculum and other activities

Grade:

The curriculum is good with some very strong features. The planning and evaluation of the curriculum, and the way that this is linked with staff training and development, are very effective. It is well organised and offers opportunities for pupils to learn about a particular focus through a variety of other subjects, linking them well. Teachers make good use of the local environment as starting points for teaching pupils about what affects the local area and what can be done to improve it. The curriculum provides opportunities for all pupils to join in extra sessions of sport and exercise through the good dinnertime and after school clubs such as dance, football, athletics, gymnastics and cheer-leading. Staff encourage pupils' creative skills and this is reflected in high quality art and display work. The school is a 'Creative Partnership School' and resident artists inspire the children they work with. Approaches to learning match the needs of all pupils including those whose first language is not English and those who have learning difficulties.

Care, guidance and support

Grade:

Inspection evidence supports the views of the overwhelming majority of parents that Millennium School provides very good care and guidance for their children. The premises are safe, secure, clean and welcoming. Effective arrangements for child protection are in place. Staff have been well trained and are fully aware of their responsibilities in this area. Relationships are good and pupils know to whom they might turn if in difficulty or distress. They are confident that any bullying is quickly sorted out. Many outside agencies are also available to give their support as and when it is needed. Teachers provide pupils with clear guidance about their performance and how they can improve. Assessment of pupils is good across the whole curriculum. This information is used carefully to plan their next steps in learning, keep a check on progress and set targets.

Leadership and management

Grade:

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Annex B**Text from letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection**

Thank you very much for welcoming us into your school this week. We enjoyed ourselves very much. You talked to us, showed us your work and were really helpful. We would like to tell you what we found out about your school.

We think that Millennium Primary School is a really good school and this is why: * You all really enjoy your lessons and work very hard * Most of you are doing super work * Your teachers are good and teach you very well * We were particularly pleased with your work in English * Your corridors were beautiful and showed off your work a treat * You are brilliantly behaved and work and play really well with others * The staff care for you very well so you can grow up healthy and safe * Your headteacher does a very good job so that you can all do your best

Even in a good school like yours there is one thing that could be improved: * Your teachers need to continue to help you with your mathematics so that you do as well as you can. Finally, we would like to thank you once again for all your help. We wish you well in the future.