

Hook-with-Warsash Church of England Primary School

Inspection report

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| Unique Reference Number | 116291 |
| Local Authority | Hampshire |
| Inspection number | 290486 |
| Inspection date | 15 March 2007 |
| Reporting inspector | Anthony Green |

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

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| Type of school | Primary |
| School category | Voluntary controlled |
| Age range of pupils | 4–11 |
| Gender of pupils | Mixed |
| Number on roll | |
| School | 421 |
| Appropriate authority | The governing body |
| Chair | Mrs Gillian Sommers |
| Headteacher | Mr Chris Hines |
| Date of previous school inspection | 24 September 2001 |
| School address | Church Road Warsash Southampton SO31 9GF |
| Telephone number | 01489 572393 |
| Fax number | 01489 570316 |

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|--------------------------|---------------|
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Introduction

The inspection was carried out by one Additional Inspector.

Description of the school

This is a larger-than-average school serving the village of Warsash and the surrounding area. Almost a third of pupils live outside the school's catchment area. The school serves a mainly socially advantaged area. A small proportion of pupils are from minority ethnic groups. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities is below average. The school has achieved the National Healthy Schools Standard.

Key for inspection grades

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

Overall effectiveness of the school

Grade: 1

Hook-with-Warsash provides an outstanding education for its pupils. The school is justifiably held in very high regard by the overwhelming majority of parents. As one perceptively wrote, 'The success of this school is securely accredited to the hardworking headteacher and his dedicated staff'. Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher sets a very clear direction for the school. He is very well supported by a well informed senior leadership team and governing body. A real strength of the school is the high quality of teamwork and commitment which ensures everyone plays an integral part in moving the school forward. As a result, pupils make outstanding progress in their academic and personal development.

This is a very caring school where a very high and successful regard is paid to pupils' personal development and well-being. Outstanding care, guidance and support draw on the close links with parents, other schools and outside agencies. Pupils feel very safe and happy and their behaviour is exemplary. They appreciate fully their involvement in the life of the school.

Attainment on entry to the Foundation Stage is in line with expectations overall but above in personal and social skills. Children make an excellent start to their education because of the outstanding provision. They do well in all six areas of learning and by the end of the Reception Year the majority are working beyond the expected levels for their age. Pupils continue to make excellent progress and by Year 6 achieve high standards in English, mathematics and science. Pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities also make excellent progress and achieve very well because of the well-informed support they receive from learning supervisors.

Outstanding teaching ensures that work is well matched to the needs of all pupils. Comprehensive assessment information ensures that work is challenging. Interactive white boards add stimulus and interest to lessons but teachers do not have the time to evaluate the increasing range of programs available for information and communication technology (ICT). The computer suite supports teaching and learning well and standards in ICT are above average but opportunities are missed for pupils to use ICT other than in the timetabled suite. This is recognized as a main area for development for the school.

The curriculum is enriched well by a very good range of activities and this contributes to pupils' high levels of achievement and enjoyment. There is a high take-up of extra-curricular music, arts and sports activities, which are open to all pupils and develop their well-being. Pupils have a good understanding of the need to lead a healthy life style. One said, 'We have to eat healthy food because it makes us fit. It makes us better at our work'.

The school is very accurate in the evaluation of its performance. There were no major issues from the previous inspection but the school has not been complacent and continues to strive for improvement. The school is well placed to maintain its current high standards and to build on its success.

What the school should do to improve further

- Provide pupils with regular access to computers other than in the timetabled periods in the computer suite.

Achievement and standards

Grade: 1

Pupils' achievement is outstanding. By the end of Year 6 they attain high standards in English, mathematics and science. Children start school with skills that are similar overall to those expected for four year olds. They make excellent progress in all six areas of the Foundation Stage curriculum and are extremely well prepared for entry to Year 1. Pupils continue to make excellent progress in Years 1 and 2 and attain standards that are well above average in reading, writing and mathematics. By Year 6 standards are high and achievement is outstanding. The proportion attaining the highest level in national tests in 2006 was significantly above average. Pupils with learning difficulties also achieve very well in relation to their individual targets. The school continues to set very challenging targets and data shows that outstanding achievement is being maintained.

Personal development and well-being

Grade: 1

Pupils' personal development and well-being, including spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, are outstanding. Pupils feel very safe, behave very well and enjoy learning. They are very polite when talking to visitors and their attitudes and behaviour are excellent. Attendance is well above average and reflects the very positive attitudes of pupils. Pupils make a very good contribution to school life. They take on responsibilities willingly and conscientiously, such as running the school office at lunch time. The school council is very active and counts amongst its many achievements improvements to the playground and the building of an almost full-size, wooden, pirate ship for play activities. One said, 'It is good to get children and everyone involved in the school. If it wasn't for the school council it would only be left to the governors to run the school'. Pupils are aware of the wider community and readily take part in many fund-raising activities such as 'Comic Relief Day' and a children's fashion show. They raise an extraordinary amount of money for charity. Year 6 and;quot;lunch time leadersand;quot; run a wide range of lunch time activities, which are well attended by pupils of all ages. One leader rightly said, 'We make a difference. You can rely on Year 6 to help and support the school'.

Pupils have a very good understanding of staying healthy and keeping safe. The school has been accredited with a national and;quot;Healthy Schooland;quot; award. Pupils' outstanding achievement in basic skills, and their excellent social skills, helps prepare them very well for their future life.

Quality of provision

Teaching and learning

Grade: 1

Teaching and learning are outstanding. Teachers have very high expectations and make learning enjoyable. They build well on pupils' previous learning and work is well-matched to their interests. This, combined with pupils' excellent attitudes and behaviour, results in outstanding progress. The needs of pupils with learning difficulties and disabilities are carefully diagnosed. They achieve well because of skilled teaching and the good support of learning supervisors. Lessons challenge and consolidate pupils' thinking. Very good use is made by teachers of questions in lessons, and comprehensive marking of books, to assess pupils' understanding

and to set individual's future targets. Regular homework is set, which complements class work and promotes pupils' enjoyment of learning.

Curriculum and other activities

Grade: 1

The curriculum is outstanding. It meets the needs of all pupils very well and stimulates an enjoyment for learning and lays excellent foundations for their future. Good links are made between subjects, which make learning meaningful. Good provision is made for ICT with a well appointed computer suite. Every class has an interactive whiteboard, which adds to the impact and interest of lessons. However, opportunities for pupils to have immediate access to computers in lessons are missed because they are centralised in the suite. The curriculum ensures that pupils enjoy learning through lively and interesting themed days and weeks, such as a "Book week" and a "Roman Day". Excellent use is made of the school grounds, including a superb wild area and environmental classroom. There is a very good range of sporting, musical and creative activities, which often make use of visiting experts, and good links with the local secondary school for the teaching of French. The school makes very good use of visits and visitors. A Year 5 residential visit to Dorset and a Year 6 residential visit to France enrich learning and pupils' personal development. There is an excellent range of lunch time activities run by Year 6 pupils and an excellent range of after school activities, which are well attended. The 'Parent Teacher Friends Association' (PTFA) raises a fantastic amount of money each year to finance many extras to enrich the curriculum.

Care, guidance and support

Grade: 1

This is outstanding and is underpinned by the strong commitment of all staff to ensure that pupils are safeguarded. Relationships between pupils and staff are excellent. The overwhelming majority of parents agree that this is a caring school. A parent of a pupil new to the school wrote, 'Since starting school in September, my son has made some very strong friendships. His confidence has soared. We are able to talk to his teacher about any concerns'. Effective links with the pre-school playgroups ensure that children transfer smoothly to Reception and get a very good start. Child protection and health and safety procedures are well established and robust.

Very good use is made of assessment of pupils to support their outstanding achievement. Pupils with learning difficulties are identified early and are given very good levels of support. Individual targets are used well to promote pupils' progress. Older pupils, especially, know their targets well. As one Year 6 pupil said, 'It gives us a little boost, which helps us'.

Leadership and management

Grade: 1

Leadership and management are outstanding. The headteacher sets very high expectations and is a very effective leader. He is ably supported by his senior leadership team. The school is successfully focused on maintaining and improving high standards and promoting the excellent personal development, well-being and care of all pupils.

Excellent links have been established with other schools, outside organisations and the church. Such initiatives are helping to support the excellent education pupils receive.

There is a very clear understanding of the school's strengths and weaknesses. There were no major issues for improvement following the previous inspection. Minor issues have been tackled successfully. The school is not complacent and has set itself rigorous targets. The school takes good account of the views of parents and pupils. Subject leaders carry out their roles well. They play an active part in monitoring and improving the quality of the curriculum and teaching.

Governance is outstanding. The well informed governing body brings a range of skills to the school. It has an excellent understanding of the school's strengths and priorities for development. Governors closely monitor and evaluate performance and provide very good challenge to school leaders.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints about school inspection', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk.

Annex A

Inspection judgements

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| <i>Key to judgements: grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 satisfactory, and grade 4 inadequate</i> | School Overall |
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Overall effectiveness

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| How effective, efficient and inclusive is the provision of education, integrated care and any extended services in meeting the needs of learners? | 1 |
| How well does the school work in partnership with others to promote learners' well-being? | 1 |
| The quality and standards in the Foundation Stage | 1 |
| The effectiveness of the school's self-evaluation | 1 |
| The capacity to make any necessary improvements | 1 |
| Effective steps have been taken to promote improvement since the last inspection | Yes |

Achievement and standards

| | |
|--|---|
| How well do learners achieve? | 1 |
| The standards ¹ reached by learners | 1 |
| How well learners make progress, taking account of any significant variations between groups of learners | 1 |
| How well learners with learning difficulties and disabilities make progress | 1 |

Personal development and well-being

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|---|---|
| How good is the overall personal development and well-being of the learners? | 1 |
| The extent of learners' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development | 1 |
| The behaviour of learners | 1 |
| The attendance of learners | 1 |
| How well learners enjoy their education | 1 |
| The extent to which learners adopt safe practices | 1 |
| The extent to which learners adopt healthy lifestyles | 1 |
| The extent to which learners make a positive contribution to the community | 1 |
| How well learners develop workplace and other skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being | 1 |

The quality of provision

| | |
|---|---|
| How effective are teaching and learning in meeting the full range of the learners' needs? | 1 |
| How well do the curriculum and other activities meet the range of needs and interests of learners? | 1 |
| How well are learners cared for, guided and supported? | 1 |

¹ Grade 1 - Exceptionally and consistently high; Grade 2 - Generally above average with none significantly below average; Grade 3 - Broadly average to below average; Grade 4 - Exceptionally low.

Annex A

Leadership and management

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| How effective are leadership and management in raising achievement and supporting all learners? | 1 |
| How effectively leaders and managers at all levels set clear direction leading to improvement and promote high quality of care and education | 1 |
| How effectively performance is monitored, evaluated and improved to meet challenging targets | 1 |
| How well equality of opportunity is promoted and discrimination tackled so that all learners achieve as well as they can | 1 |
| How effectively and efficiently resources, including staff, are deployed to achieve value for money | 1 |
| The extent to which governors and other supervisory boards discharge their responsibilities | 1 |
| Do procedures for safeguarding learners meet current government requirements? | Yes |
| Does this school require special measures? | No |
| Does this school require a notice to improve? | No |

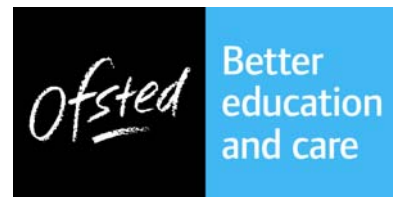
Annex B

Text from letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection

Please see attached for pupil's letter.

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Letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection.

27 March 2007

Dear Pupils

Hook-with-Warsash Primary School, Church Road, Warsash, Southampton, Hampshire, SO31 9GF

Thank you for your very friendly welcome when I visited your school. You told me you attend a very good school and I agree. I even think that you go to an outstanding school. That means it is excellent and does everything it can to help you develop into mature young people. You told me that you enjoy school. That was very obvious to me – especially seeing you and your staff in unusual dress for “Comic Relief Day”. You should be very proud of the amount of money you raised for this and for the other charities you support.

I was very impressed by many things. These are just a few of them:

- you learn quickly and Year 6 pupils do very well in the national (SATs) tests
- your behaviour is excellent
- teaching in the school is outstanding, which is why you do so well
- your learning supervisors give you excellent support
- you know how to keep safe and how important it is to stay fit and healthy
- you are given lots of interesting activities outside the school day and many are organised by your Year 6 ‘Lunch time leaders’
- your school council plays an important part in running the school
- your headteacher, the senior staff and your governors are excellent in the way in which they lead your school.

Even in an outstanding school there are things that can be improved. I have asked your teachers to give you more opportunities to use computers and ICT in you classrooms rather than just in the computer suite.

I wish you all the best for the future and thank you again for making my visit such an enjoyable one. I hope you enjoy playing on your wooden pirate ship, once it is ready for use.

Anthony Green
Lead inspector

