

# All Saints Church of England Primary School

Inspection report

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<b>Unique Reference Number</b>	131010
<b>Local Authority</b>	Somerset
<b>Inspection number</b>	315697
<b>Inspection date</b>	18 June 2008
<b>Reporting inspector</b>	Diane Wilkinson

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

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<b>Type of school</b>	Primary
<b>School category</b>	Voluntary aided
<b>Age range of pupils</b>	4–11
<b>Gender of pupils</b>	Mixed
<b>Number on roll</b>	
School	207
<b>Appropriate authority</b>	The governing body
<b>Chair</b>	Robert Fisher
<b>Headteacher</b>	Elizabeth A Wilson-Chalon
<b>Date of previous school inspection</b>	29 September 2003
<b>School address</b>	Ladies Walk Yeovil Road Montacute TA15 6XG
<b>Telephone number</b>	01935 826626
<b>Fax number</b>	01935 825788

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## Introduction

The inspection was carried out by one Additional Inspector. The inspector evaluated the overall effectiveness of the school and investigated the following issues: the progress of higher attaining pupils, differences in the performance of boys and girls and consistency in the quality of teaching. Evidence was gathered from lesson observations, analysis of school tracking and assessment data, and discussions with the headteacher, other senior staff, members of the governing body and pupils. The views of parents were gathered from the returns of the school's own questionnaire. Other aspects of the school's work were not investigated in detail, but the inspector found no evidence to suggest that the school's own assessments, as given its self-evaluation form, were not justified, and these have been included where appropriate in this report.

## Description of the school

All Saints is a one-form entry village primary school. Most pupils come from a White British background. A small number from minority ethnic groups speak English as an additional language. Attainment on entry has declined over the last few years and is below that expected, particularly in some key literacy skills. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is about average. The school holds the Investors in People, Healthy Schools and Silver Eco-friendly awards.

## Key for inspection grades

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

## Overall effectiveness of the school

### Grade: 1

All Saints Primary School provides an outstanding education, a view that is shared by pupils and their parents. As one parent wrote, 'We are extremely happy with all that the school has done for our children.' Pupils love coming to school and thoroughly enjoy all that it has to offer.

The visionary leadership of the headteacher ensures that the whole school community is continually striving to provide a high quality education. Senior managers and governors are very skilled at ensuring the accommodation is of an exceptionally high standard. As a result, it provides an excellent environment for learning and is very safe and secure. Teamwork amongst staff and governors is excellent. All make an outstanding contribution to monitoring and developing the school's work. Self-evaluation is outstanding, with any weaknesses being speedily identified and very successfully addressed. Challenging targets are continually set, with staff working successfully to achieve them. This is evident in the much improved performance of higher attaining pupils this year. These strengths give confidence that the school is exceptionally well placed to maintain its high quality education and to continue to improve.

Judicious staff appointments, together with excellent arrangements for performance management and staff development, have resulted in exceptionally good subject leadership. The impact is also evident in the consistently high quality teaching and learning seen throughout the school. Pupils are set challenging tasks, very well matched to the level at which they are working. This ensures that higher attaining pupils make the progress of which they are capable. Lesson activities are very practical and interesting and pupils say, 'Staff explain things very well and always give you lots of help if you are stuck.' As a result of these strengths, pupils enjoy lessons very much and work hard. For example, the commitment and enthusiasm observed in a Year 6 science investigation produced exceptionally good learning. An outstanding feature of lessons is the way that, from a young age, pupils are encouraged to reflect on how well they have done and what they can do to improve. This is a major reason why they make very good progress. However, pupils are not sufficiently aware of how well they are doing in relation to their targets. Teaching assistants make an extremely effective contribution to learning. In particular, they are especially good in supporting those pupils who have learning or behavioural needs.

Achievement is very good and standards are well above average by the time pupils leave. Improving progress is evident in the rising number of pupils reaching both the expected and the higher levels in national tests in English, mathematics and science. Pupils develop an exceptionally good range of skills to support them in their future life. Especially good attention is paid to their individual needs and interests so that boys and girls achieve equally well. The excellent support that pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities receive results in them making the same very good progress as their classmates. This is also the case for those pupils who speak English as an additional language.

The outstanding curriculum capitalises especially well on pupils' great enthusiasm for school. It is rich and varied. Excellent links between subjects provide pupils with a wealth of opportunities to practise their literacy, numeracy and information and communication technology skills. The curriculum is especially well adapted to address school development priorities, for example to increase the progress of the higher attaining pupils. Provision in the Foundation Stage is excellent, with activities meeting children's needs especially well. Enrichment activities,

through the outstanding range of visits, visitors and after school clubs, further enhance pupils' learning. The school has forged excellent partnerships with parents, other schools and agencies to help provide the very best level of care and education for pupils.

This is an exceptionally caring school, which pays outstanding attention to pupils' safety and welfare. Pastoral support is excellent, especially for those pupils who are vulnerable or who have learning or behaviour problems. Pupils thoroughly approve of the school's system for rewarding good work and behaviour and say the measures to encourage this are very effective. These strengths, together with the excellent programme for personal, social and health education, result in pupils making outstanding progress in their personal development. The very well planned assemblies help support pupils' excellent spiritual development. There are excellent opportunities for pupils to learn about their own and other cultures. Pupils behave exceptionally well and relationships throughout the school are excellent. They are very friendly, mature, polite and helpful young people who exhibit an outstanding concern for others. This is especially evident in the way that pupils help those who may be having learning or social problems. Pupils have an especially good understanding of the ways in which to keep healthy and safe and very much enjoy the many opportunities to take part in sports activities and to grow their own vegetables. They feel very safe and secure in school saying, for example, 'Adults always sort things out.' Through the work of the school council, support of ecological issues and involvement in village life, pupils make an excellent contribution to the local and wider community.

## **Effectiveness of the Foundation Stage**

### **Grade: 1**

Children's achievement is very good due to the excellent curriculum, high quality teaching and outstanding level of care. By the end of Reception, standards are slightly above those expected. Activities are very practical and interesting, with lots of resources, both indoors and out, to help children learn. The balance between tasks where children work with an adult and those they choose for themselves is excellent. This helps children to become independent learners who work and play happily together. Their personal and social development is outstanding and forms a very good platform on which to build in other classes. Relationships between children and adults are excellent so that lessons are fun. Children work exceptionally hard because they want to please staff. The provision is especially well managed, with staff keeping a very careful check on children's progress so that their individual needs can be met exceptionally well.

### **What the school should do to improve further**

- Ensure that pupils understand how well they are doing in relation to their targets.

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## Annex A

## Inspection judgements

Key to judgements: grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 satisfactory, and grade 4 inadequate	School Overall
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### Overall effectiveness

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

### Achievement and standards

How well do learners achieve?	1
The standards <sup>1</sup> reached by learners	2
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

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 extent to which learners adopt healthy lifestyles	1
The extent to which learners adopt safe practices	1
How well learners enjoy their education	1
The attendance of learners	1
The behaviour of learners	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

<sup>1</sup> 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**

<b>How effective are leadership and management in raising achievement and supporting all learners?</b>	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 leaders and managers use challenging targets to raise standards	1
The effectiveness of the school's self-evaluation	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



## **Text from letter to pupils explaining the findings of the inspection**

19 June 2008

Dear Pupils

Inspection of All Saints Church of England Primary School, Yeovil TA15 6XG

Thank you for welcoming me to your school and being so friendly and helpful. I particularly want to thank the school council members who gave up their time to speak to me. I think your school is excellent and am delighted that you and your parents think so too.

Here are some of the things I found out were good about the school.

- You make very good progress so that the standards you reach in English, mathematics and science are well above average.
- Your personal development is excellent and you develop into very friendly, helpful, polite and mature young people. Behaviour is outstanding and you all get on very well together.
- Teaching is excellent and staff provide very interesting activities which help you do your best.
- Adults take especially good care of you so you feel very safe and happy in school and enjoy learning very much.
- Your school is exceptionally well led and managed and all staff and governors are working very successfully to make sure you have a very good education.

I have suggested one thing for your school to do now. Staff give you lots of very good advice on how you can improve so that you know how well you have done and what you need to do next. However, they need to make sure that you regularly check your improvement targets so that you are clear about how close you are to reaching them.

Thank you again for all your help and good luck for the future.

Yours sincerely

D Wilkinson Lead Inspector

19 June 2008

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Lead Inspector