



## National Society Statutory Inspection of Anglican Schools Report

### **The Bishop of Winchester Comprehensive School**

Mallard Road  
Bournemouth  
BH8 9PW

**Diocese: Winchester**

**Local authority:** Bournemouth

**Dates of inspection:** 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009

**Date of last inspection:** September 2006

**School's unique reference number:** 134702

**Headteacher:** Paul McKeown

**Inspector's name and number:** Alan Brown 256

### **School context**

The School is a voluntary aided co-educational 11-16 school. This is the second denominational inspection of the school. The presence of selective schools in the area reduces the proportion of higher attaining students admitted to the school. There are 682 students on roll.

### **The distinctiveness and effectiveness of The Bishop of Winchester Comprehensive School as a Church of England school are outstanding**

The visionary, purposeful quality of leadership and management, the appointment of an effective and imaginative Chaplain and the excellent provision for worship make The Bishop of Winchester an outstanding school. The students are intensely proud of their school and enthusiastic about all it offers, especially the quality of all relationships across the school. The endorsement of students and staff for the Christian character of the school is indicative of its success.

### **Established strengths**

- The outstanding, visionary leadership of the Headteacher, Governing Body and Senior Leadership Team recognised by staff and students;
- The commitment of the Chaplain to the religious and spiritual life of the school;
- The quality of relationships across the whole school between students and staff.

### **Focus for development**

- The marking of work in Religious Education to identify the strengths and weaknesses of students and to address the quality of resources for teaching RE.
- To continue the effective outreach of the school into the wider community.

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

The School has a Governing Body, Headteacher, Chaplain and senior staff with an interest in, and commitment to, the further development of the Christian character of the school. They share an educational vision for the school in which the Christian foundation plays an integral part and there is a strong Christian theology which underpins all that the school does. This is demonstrated through the appointment of a full-time Chaplain who is fully appreciated by staff, students and the wider community. The staff-student relationships are a strength of the school. One Year 10 student commented, '*We work with the teachers rather than against them*'. Another, in Year 11, observed, '*The school employs people who can teach rather than just teachers*'. The school exudes vibrant energy and positive enthusiasm rooted in a clear sense of the purpose of what a church school can and should offer the communities which it serves. It is a welcoming, caring Christian educational community. There are Christian symbols and paintings around the school encouraging reflection and comment. The lapel badges of a cross are also given for Community Service. The Chaplain has a significant influence on the daily life of the whole school through her quiet confident presence. Students were appreciative and supportive of the pastoral care from the staff and the responsibilities they are given to grow and mature.

### **The impact of collective worship on the school community is outstanding**

Worship plays a central role in the life of the school. It is inclusive and engages all students regardless of religion or culture. The themes selected for worship are well supported by a range of very good, stimulating resources giving students and staff greater confidence to lead worship in their tutor groups. Students become familiar with the main events of the Christian year and the variety of ways in which Christians express their faith. Students were appreciative of worship in school, finding it interesting and helpful in their spiritual journey. The Chaplain and staff engage students in directing and planning of worship which they enjoy. The plans for the re-siting of the Chapel will mean that it will soon occupy a central place within the school. The growing success of the school will mean that thought will have to be given to ensuring the strong sense of community enhanced through the Eucharist and school worship will be maintained. All students worship daily.

### **The effectiveness of the religious education is good**

The standards in Religious Education are high and all students interviewed said how much they liked and enjoyed RE and felt challenged by the work. They appreciate the importance of learning about religion in contemporary society in a lively and challenging way. The teaching observed was also good. The RE department has good teachers who teach to the highest level and during the inspection a very good and lively lesson on Sikh festivals was observed. More assessment and direction is needed for students to identify the strengths and weaknesses of their work. The resources for teaching RE in the department and in the library are also looking dated and tired. The school has supported the department by allocating a significant allocation of money to be spent on resources but owing to illness this has not yet been spent. There is a temporary loss of direction for RE due to the absence of the Head of department however students enjoy the quality of teaching and the content of their study.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is outstanding**

The Headteacher has a clear vision of what a Christian educational institution should be and there is a sense of dynamic purpose and enthusiasm throughout the school. The vision of what the school will become, as it moves towards an academy, provides a dynamic model of vigour, rigour and enthusiasm for all colleagues and there is wholehearted support and enthusiasm across the staff and amongst students. The outreach of the school into the community is a practical expression of the way in which the Church in education continues to

respond to the needs of the societies it serves and provides a practical example of the importance of community cohesion, as does all the charitable work of the school together with its growing international links. The students recognise the vibrant purpose and energy within the school that emanates from the staff and are enthused by it while agreeing that it is a friendly and supportive place to be. The school leadership has high expectations of all staff and students. There can be no doubt that the development of each student's academic, religious and spiritual potential is a particular focus for the leadership and management of The Bishop of Winchester School. This, together with the development of socially responsible learners, finds expression in the maturity of the students themselves. The school challenges its students academically and spiritually while remaining open, receptive and inclusive to different persuasions, opinions and beliefs.

SIAS report November 2009 The Bishop of Winchester Comp. School Bournemouth BH8 9PW



## Judgement Recording Form (NSJRF)

Name of school: The Bishop of Winchester Comprehensive School

Address of School: Mallard Road, Bournemouth BH8 9HW

School URN: 134702

Date of inspection: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2009

NS Inspector's Number: 256

Type of Church school: Voluntary Aided

Number of pupils: 611

Phase of education: Secondary

**Has Diocesan Quality Assurance been obtained for this report?** Yes

**Rating 1-4**

<b>How distinctive and effective is the school as a Church school?</b>	<b>1</b>
How well does the school, through its distinctive Christian character, meet the needs of all learners?	1
How effective is the worshipping experience provided by the school?	1
How effective is the religious education?	2
How effective are the leadership and management of the school, as a church school?	1
The school meets the statutory requirement for collective acts of worship	Yes
The school meets the statutory requirement for religious education	Yes

## Inspection Judgements

The school meets the statutory requirements for Collective Worship	1
The school meets the statutory requirements for Religious Education	1
<b>How well does the school, through its distinctive character, meet the needs of all learners?</b>	<b>Grade</b>
To what extent do all learners feel valued and special?	1
How well do the school's Christian values impact on learners and enable them to flourish as individuals?	1
How well does the Christian ethos support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all learners, whether they are Christian, of other faiths and of none?	1
How are Christian values evident in the relationships between staff and learners and between staff?	1
How well is the school environment used to encourage spiritual development?	1
<b>What is the Impact of Collective Worship on the School Community?</b>	<b>Grade</b>
How important is worship in the life of the school? How is it demonstrated?	1
How positive are the attitudes to collective worship?	1
To what extent do learners and staff of all faiths derive inspiration and spiritual growth and affirmation from worship?	2
How well does collective worship develop learners' understanding of Anglican faith and practice?	1
<b>How effective is the Religious Education provided by the school?</b>	<b>Grade</b>
How high are standards in RE and how well do learners achieve? Why?	2
How effective are learning and teaching in RE?	3
To what extent do learners of all faiths and of none demonstrate a positive attitude towards the subject?	1
How well does RE contribute to the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of all learners?	1
To what extent does RE promote the distinctive Christian character of the school together with an understanding of other faiths?	1
How important is RE in the life of the school and how is this demonstrated?	2
<b>How effective are the leadership and management of the school as a church school?</b>	<b>Grade</b>
How well do the Headteacher and foundation governors promote a distinctive Christian vision for the school?	1
How effectively do the Headteacher, senior management and governors encourage, monitor and challenge the school to realise this vision?	1
How valued do staff feel and how involved in putting the vision into practice?	1
To what extent are all stakeholders, including learners and their parents, involved in evaluating the school's progress?	1
How effective is the partnership between the school, the church and the local community including parents?	1

