

Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Survey**Spring 2009 – Summer 2009****Main Findings****Spiritual Development**

Spiritual development is a grade 2 (good features and no important shortcomings) or higher in every school inspected during Spring 2009 - Summer 2009. Five schools were awarded a grade 1 (good with outstanding features) and two schools a grade 2 (good features and no important shortcomings) in relation to pupils' spiritual development.

Collective Worship

The inspection reports identify positive features in relation to collective worship in many of the schools inspected.

Good features

- The legal requirements for collective worship are met.
- Makes a positive contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral and personal development.
- Opportunities provided for pupils to celebrate their special achievements.
- Opportunities provided for pupils to reflect.
- Strong emphasis on values and a sense of community.
- Significant contributions made to the acts of collective worshiping by visiting clergy and other members of the community.

Shortcomings

- Limited opportunities for pupils to reflect on matters.

Religious Education

- Two schools received a short inspection where no subjects were inspected – Cwmfelinfach Primary and Gilfach Fargoed Primary.
- One school received a standard inspection where RE was not one of the six subjects inspected – Derwendeg Primary.
- Standards in religious education were inspected in four schools – Bedwas Junior, Plasyfelin Primary, St Gwladys Bargoed School and St James' Primary.
- Standards were judged to be a grade 1 (good with outstanding features) at Bedwas Junior School.
- Standards were judged to be a grade 2 (good features, no important shortcoming) at Plasyfelin Primary, St Gwladys Bargoed School and St James' Primary.

Outstanding features

- Pupils demonstrate excellent knowledge of events in the Christian calendar and link them appropriately with events in the Bible.
- Pupils' knowledge of the life of Jesus is particularly good.
- Pupils demonstrate an outstanding knowledge and understanding of Islam.
- Most older pupils consider, appreciate, respect and empathise with the viewpoints of others; they have an excellent understanding of the fact that all people have similarities and differences.
- All pupils have a strong awareness of the importance of safeguarding the environment and protecting the world. Many respond with awe and wonder to the natural world around them.

Good features

- Pupils develop a good knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other world religions.
- Visits made to places of worship in the local and wider community.
- Good understanding of the use and significance of religious artefacts.
- Opportunities provided for pupils to discuss and to reflect on religious and moral issues.
- Good understanding of religious concepts and symbols.
- Pupils able to raise questions about the world and aspects of religion.
- Pupils able to identify similarities and differences across religions.

Shortcomings

- No shortcomings were identified in the reports where RE was inspected as a subject.

Additional information

Even though RE was not inspected as a subject in Gilfach Fargoed Primary the report notes that arrangements for assessing pupils' progress in religious education lack a formal structure. It is a recommendation for the school to extend assessment procedures at KS1 and KS2 to include all National Curriculum subjects and RE.

Caerphilly Primary School Inspection Reports Spring 2009 - Summer 2009: SACRE Synopsis

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	RE standards	Other issues
Bedwas Junior May 2009	Spiritual -1 Class activities provide pupils with a sense of awe and wonder. Members of the local clergy who often lead collective worship contribute greatly to the spiritual development of pupils.	Yes	It provides pupils with valuable time to think and reflect on issues, such as those affecting themselves as well as how the world was created, the diversity of people and the need to ensure the continuity of life on the planet.	KS2 - 1	None
Cwmfelinfach Primary May 2009	SMSC -2	Yes	CW makes a good contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral development as they receive regular opportunities to participate and reflect on values. Assemblies promote a strong sense of community in the way they celebrate pupils' achievements and moral and social values.	Short inspection – no subjects inspected.	None

1=good with outstanding features 2=good 3=satisfactory 4=unsatisfactory 5=poor

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	RE standards	Other issues
Derwendeg Primary February 2009	SMSC -2	Yes	Daily acts of collective worship are held offering limited opportunities for pupils to reflect on matters that affect them and to contribute to their spiritual development.	Standard inspection – RE not one of the six subjects inspected.	None
Gilfach Fargoed Primary March 2009	SMSC -1	Yes	CW offers relevant experiences in a wide range of themes. It contributes well to pupils' personal development	Short inspection – no subjects inspected.	The inspection report notes that arrangements for assessing pupils' progress in religious education lack a formal structure. Recommendation: In KS1 and 2, extend assessment procedures to include all National Curriculum subjects and RE.

1=good with outstanding features 2=good 3=satisfactory 4=unsatisfactory 5=poor

School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	RE standards	Other issues
Plasfelin Primary March 2009	SMSC -1 Spiritual development is promoted well through daily collective worship of a broadly Christian nature, prayers in the class and within the curriculum.	Yes	Pupils take part and assist in assemblies well. Visits from people of faith and other visitors make a significant contribution. Assemblies promote a strong sense of community in the way they celebrate pupils' achievements. During these gatherings pupils are respectful, enthusiastic and reflective.	KS1 -2 KS2 -2 No shortcomings identified in report.	None
St Gwladys Bargoed School March 2009	SMSC-1	Yes	Collective worship is very effective in providing outstanding opportunities to promote clear values. During acts of worship, nearly all pupils reflect quietly and sensibly on their feelings, lives and the lives of others in a calm and spiritual atmosphere.	KS1 -2 KS2 -2 There are no important shortcomings.	None

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School	Spiritual Development	CW: meeting legal requirements	CW: quality	RE standards	Other issues
St James' Primary February 2009	SMSC -1	Yes	During CW pupils reflect on their feelings. Visiting ministers from Bethel Baptist, Bethesda and Emanuel churches help pupils reflect on their lives and the lives of others.	KS1 -2 KS2 -2 There are no important shortcomings.	None

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