

Inspection of a good school: The Market Rasen Church of England Primary School

Mill Road, Market Rasen, Lincolnshire LN8 3BL

Inspection dates:

20 and 21 February 2024

Outcome

The Market Rasen Church of England Primary School continues to be a good school.

What is it like to attend this school?

The Market Rasen Church of England Primary School is a harmonious and inclusive school. Pupils enjoy learning and they thrive in this setting. They feel safe and many pupils take advantage of the holiday club in school. Families appreciate the opportunities the school gives to their children.

The school's values include being caring and honest. A group of pupils said, 'These help us to become good people.' Around school, the values shine. Pupils behave well in lessons and when they are outside at play. Pupils are respectful and fair. They cooperate with each other well.

The school has high expectations of all pupils. In lessons, pupils work hard. They follow instructions well. They respond to guidance from adults. This helps them learn well. Staff check for gaps in any learning. Pupils know they can go to adults for help.

Parents are supportive of the work the school does. One typical comment reflected the views of many: 'This school goes above and beyond for the children.' Relationships between the school and families are a strength. The school is at the heart of the community.

What does the school do well and what does it need to do better?

The school has developed an ambitious curriculum. In most subjects leaders have identified the key knowledge they want pupils to learn. Subject leaders have ensured that the curriculum is sequenced from early years through to Year 6. It is designed to ensure that pupils build their knowledge over time. In a very small number of subjects the school has not identified the key knowledge that it wants children to learn. In these subjects pupils do not learn as well as they do in other subjects.

Staff check that pupils have learned the intended curriculum. When they find gaps in pupils' knowledge, they provide further teaching to address this. Staff ensure that pupils

revisit what they have learned previously. This helps pupils to remember what they have learned over time.

Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) learn the full curriculum. They learn alongside their friends in lessons. Staff adapt the curriculum to support pupils who need extra help. Pupils are able to enjoy their learning together.

There is a clear focus on reading. Children start learning to read as soon as they start school. Children in the early years practise their sounds regularly to help them improve their reading. This helps them become more fluent readers. Pupils who need extra help have further phonics teaching. This helps them to keep up. Pupils have lots of opportunities to read across the curriculum. They read many different types of texts. Staff discuss their favourite books with pupils. Pupils enjoy staff reading to them. Pupils talk about their favourite authors.

In early years, children get off to a good start in learning the curriculum. For example, in mathematics children were learning about time and counting. In other lessons, they enjoyed star jumping and learning about the effects of exercise, discussing stories and talking about why a bungalow was a different kind of home.

Staff set high expectations in lessons and around school. Pupils strive to meet these. In lessons, behaviour is good and often excellent. This good behaviour is celebrated through many awards. These include 'golden coins' or wearing the 'purple jumper' to celebrate success. The 'golden chair' is used to present awards. Pupils are highly motivated by these rewards.

The school promotes pupils' personal development well. It provides opportunities for pupils to take on leadership roles. For example, pupils can become mini-police or junior road-safety officers. These opportunities develop pupils' character and help pupils to take on responsibilities. Pupils learn about relationships. They also learn about other cultures and faiths. There are visits to a local aquarium and places of interest. Residential trips take place each year, some of these are to London. Pupils enjoy these trips. They also have swimming lessons at the on-site swimming pool. The school ensures that all children have access to these experiences.

Governance is effective in this school. Governors meet with subject leaders to monitor the effectiveness of the school's curriculum. They help identify strengths and weaknesses. They monitor the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements. They check on the well-being and workload of all staff. Staff benefit from sharing expertise across the federation.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

What does the school need to do to improve?

(Information for the school and appropriate authority)

- In a very small number of subjects, the school has not yet identified the key knowledge that it wants pupils to learn. In these subjects pupils do not learn the curriculum as well as they could. The school needs to ensure that the key knowledge that pupils should learn is identified and that the delivery of the curriculum ensures that pupils learn and remember it.

Background

When we have judged a school to be good, we will then normally go into the school about once every four years to confirm that the school remains good. This is called an ungraded inspection, and it is carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005. We do not give graded judgements on an ungraded inspection. However, if we find evidence that a school would now receive a higher or lower grade, then the next inspection will be a graded inspection, which is carried out under section 5 of the Act. Usually this is within one to two years of the date of the ungraded inspection. If we have serious concerns about safeguarding, behaviour or the quality of education, we will deem the ungraded inspection a graded inspection immediately.

This is the second ungraded inspection since we judged the school to be good in November 2013.

How can I feed back my views?

You can use [Ofsted Parent View](#) to give Ofsted your opinion on your child's school, or to find out what other parents and carers think. We use information from Ofsted Parent View when deciding which schools to inspect, when to inspect them and as part of their inspection.

The Department for Education has further [guidance](#) on how to complain about a school.

Further information

You can search for [published performance information](#) about the school.

In the report, 'disadvantaged pupils' is used to mean pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND); pupils who meet the [definition of children in need of help and protection](#); pupils receiving statutory local authority support from a social worker; and pupils who otherwise meet the criteria used for deciding the school's [pupil premium funding](#) (this includes pupils claiming free school meals at any point in the last six years, looked after children (children in local authority care) and/or children who left care through adoption or another formal route).

School details

Unique reference number	120577
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10313236
Type of school	Primary
School category	Voluntary controlled
Age range of pupils	4 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	306
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair of governing body	Mike Eckersley
Headteacher	Andrew Smith (Executive Headteacher)
Website	www.marketrasen.lincs.sch.uk
Date of previous inspection	28 June 2018, under section 8 of the Education Act 2005

Information about this school

- The school does not make use of alternative provision.

Information about this inspection

- Inspections are a point-in-time judgement about the quality of a school's education provision.
- This was the first routine inspection the school received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the school and has taken that into account in his evaluation of the school.
- During the inspection, the inspector met with the executive headteacher and the head of school, and a range of staff.
- The inspector met with members of the governing body. He also spoke with representatives of the local authority.
- The inspector carried out deep dives in early reading, mathematics and geography. For each deep dive, the inspector met with subject leaders to discuss the curriculum, spoke with teachers and spoke with pupils about their learning. He visited lessons and looked

at samples of pupils' work. The inspector observed some pupils reading to a familiar adult.

- The inspector observed pupils' behaviour in lessons and around school.
- The inspector considered responses to Ofsted's online survey, Ofsted Parent View, including free-text comments. The inspector met with staff and considered responses to the Ofsted survey for school staff.

Inspection team

George Huthart, lead inspector

Ofsted Inspector

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