

Inspection of a good school: Preesall Fleetwood's Charity Church of England Primary School

Mill Street, Preesall, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire FY6 0NN

Inspection date:

18 October 2023

Outcome

Preesall Fleetwood's Charity Church of England Primary School continues to be a good school.

What is it like to attend this school?

Pupils are happy in this small and friendly school. They value the nurturing environment provided by the staff. Pupils' positive attitudes towards school are reflected in their sensible conduct in lessons and during breaktimes.

Pupils of all ages spend time together in their 'family groups' at lunchtime. Older pupils serve lunch to their 'family'. This helps pupils to learn to look after each other. They make sure that everybody is included. For example, pupils on the school council wanted everyone to be able to play on the grass in all weather. They worked with the school to provide a 'welly wall' where pupils can borrow wellies if they need them. This helps pupils to feel part of a caring community.

Pupils of all ages value learning outdoors. They spend time in the school's forest area where they learn a range of skills, such as shelter building and how to work together in a team. Parents and carers consider these opportunities to be part of what makes the school special.

The school wants all pupils to be successful. In the recent past, the curriculum has been strengthened across all subject areas. The school provides a high-quality curriculum. Typically, pupils achieve well.

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

The school ensures that pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), benefit from an ambitious curriculum. The small size of the school means that some classes include pupils of different ages. Very careful thought has been given to making sure that pupils within each class access learning that is appropriate for

them. Leaders ensure that, over their time at school, pupils learn what they need to know so that they are well prepared for key stage 3.

Across all subjects, staff know precisely what pupils should learn. Typically, teachers design learning activities that emphasise this important information. The school has rigorous processes in place to check what pupils know and remember of their previous learning. Staff use these to identify any gaps in pupils' knowledge before moving on to new content. This helps pupils, including those who join the school part way through their primary schooling, to build their knowledge securely.

Reading is prioritised in the school. This begins in the Nursery class, where children enjoy taking home story packs which include a teddy and postcard alongside some reading activities. The school engages parents in supporting their children to read. For example, it encourages them to choose activities to share with their children from an 'extended learning menu', such as visiting the local library or reading a bedtime story.

The school has recently introduced a new phonics programme. Children in the Nursery class are prepared well for this by developing their recognition of sounds and letters. This allows them to make a quick start to formal phonics learning at the beginning of the Reception Year. In the main, the phonics programme is delivered effectively. Staff swiftly identify any pupils who are struggling with their phonics knowledge and ensure that they receive the help that they need to catch up. However, at times this support is not as effective as it could be. Sometimes staff do not use the most appropriate strategies to support pupils to learn well. This hinders some pupils' progress towards becoming accurate and confident readers.

The school has thorough processes in place to identify any additional needs that pupils may have. It has recently experienced an increase in the number of pupils with SEND, including some who have joined the school later in their primary schooling. Staff receive information about the needs of these pupils. However, at times, some do not use this information to adapt the delivery of the curriculum as effectively as they could. This hinders how well some pupils with SEND achieve.

Pupils benefit from a plethora of extra-curricular opportunities, including archery and gardening clubs. They are also encouraged to take on wider responsibilities in school. For example, eco monitors identify opportunities for sustainability and recycling in their classrooms and candle monitors take a role in worship. These experiences help to ensure that pupils are prepared well for their lives in modern society.

Pupils and staff foster warm relationships based on mutual respect. Pupils follow well-rehearsed routines with little prompting from staff. This helps to ensure that the atmosphere around school and in classrooms is calm and purposeful.

Regular newsletters ensure that parents are kept informed about what their children will learn. The information provided enables parents to support and extend their child's learning at home.

Governors are well informed about the school. They support and challenge leaders to continue to improve the quality of education that they provide. Staff are very happy at the school. They feel that their time is valued, for example subject leaders are given the time that they need to devote to curriculum design.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

What does the school need to do to improve?

(Information for the school and appropriate authority)

- Occasionally, staff do not use effective strategies to support pupils who struggle to learn to read. This means that some pupils do not develop their phonics knowledge as quickly as they should. The school should ensure that staff are well trained to support pupils to develop into accurate and confident readers.
- At times, some staff do not successfully adapt their delivery of the curriculum for pupils with SEND. This means that some pupils with SEND do not learn the curriculum as well as they could. The school should ensure that staff are fully equipped to support these pupils to learn well.

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 October 2014.

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	119558
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10294326
Type of school	Primary
School category	Voluntary aided
Age range of pupils	3 to 11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on the school roll	144
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair of governing body	Christine Hallett
Headteacher	Victoria Gladwin
Website	www.fleetwoods.lancs.sch.uk
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2018, under section 8 of the Education Act 2005

Information about this school

- This is a Church of England school in the Diocese of Blackburn. The school's last section 48 inspection was in December 2019. The next section 48 inspection is due to take place before the end of 2025.
- The school offers a breakfast and after-school club for pupils.
- The school does not make use of any 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. Inspectors discussed the impact of the pandemic with leaders and have taken that into account in their evaluation of the school.
- Inspectors spoke with the headteacher, other leaders and staff.
- An inspector met with representatives of the governing body, including the chair of governors.

- An inspector spoke with a representative of the local authority and met with a consultant who works with the school.
- Inspectors carried out deep dives in these subjects: early reading, mathematics and geography. They met with subject leaders, visited lessons, reviewed some samples of pupils' work and spoke with staff and pupils. An inspector also spoke to leaders about the curriculum in other subjects.
- An inspector observed some pupils reading to a familiar member of staff. She spoke with some pupils about their reading.
- Inspectors met with pupils to ask about their experience of school. They also considered the responses to Ofsted's pupil survey.
- Inspectors met with groups of staff. They also considered the responses to Ofsted's survey for staff.
- Inspectors considered the responses to Ofsted Parent View, including the free-text comments. An inspector also spoke to some parents at the start of the school day.
- Inspectors observed pupils' behaviour during lessons and at breaktimes.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding, inspectors reviewed the single central record, took account of the views of leaders, staff and pupils and considered the extent to which the school has created an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts pupils' interests first.
- Inspectors reviewed a wide range of evidence, including the school's self-evaluation documents and minutes of governing body meetings.

Inspection team

Sally Rix, lead inspector

His Majesty's Inspector

David Woodhouse

Ofsted Inspector

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for children looked after, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at <http://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2023