

Inspection of Navenby Church of England Primary School

East Road, Navenby, Lincoln, Lincolnshire LN5 0EP

Inspection dates: 7 and 8 December 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Early years provision	Good
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Previous inspection grade	Outstanding
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This school was last inspected 15 years ago and judged 'Outstanding' under a previous inspection framework. This reflected the school's overall effectiveness under the inspection framework in use at that time.

From then until November 2020, the school was exempted by law from routine inspection, so there has been a longer gap than usual between inspections. Judgements in this report are based on the current inspection framework and also reflect changes that may have happened at any point since the last inspection.

What is it like to attend this school?

Pupils enjoy school. They look forward to coming to school. Pupils value the warm and friendly relationships they have with each other and their teachers. One pupil said, 'Our teachers are very talented. They are all good at different things.'

Pupils value the school's Christian ethos. Leaders provide time during collective worship for pupils to be reflective about their own beliefs and those of others.

Pupils are well mannered and respectful. Most pupils behave well. A small minority of pupils find it difficult to stay focused during lessons. This means that they do not learn as well as they could. Pupils say that bullying is rare. If bullying does happen, pupils are confident that leaders will deal with it quickly.

Pupils feel safe in school. They learn how to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations, including when they are using the internet.

There is a wide range of after-school clubs. Pupils enjoy clubs such as 'Magic Maths', and those for music and sport. These are well attended.

Leaders' vision is one of success for all. They have high aspirations for every pupil. Leaders want all pupils to be the best they can possibly be.

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

Leaders have planned the curriculum so that it is ambitious for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) and disadvantaged pupils. They have made sure that lessons follow a sequence that helps pupils to build their knowledge step by step. Pupils have frequent opportunities to revisit their prior learning. This means that they remember more of what they have been taught.

Pupils study a rich and balanced curriculum. They talk about the work they do in different subjects with enthusiasm. Leaders have made sure that the curriculum begins in early years. This well-sequenced curriculum ensures that children in Reception Year are well prepared for Year 1.

Leaders have prioritised improving pupils' reading skills. Children begin learning phonics as soon as they enter Reception Year. Most younger pupils are able to use their phonic knowledge to read words. Older pupils can talk about their favourite books and authors. Leaders have recently introduced a new phonics programme that identifies precisely the order in which pupils should learn new sounds and letters. Staff have had some training to teach the new approach. Although it is not fully embedded, they have started to implement the new programme across early years and key stage 1.

Mathematics is well planned and taught. Teachers have good subject knowledge. Pupils say that they enjoy their mathematics lessons. Teachers support pupils to

remember more of what they have learned by using their 'spaced learning' approach. Pupils use their 'last month, this week and next week' sheets to revisit previous learning. From Reception onwards, teachers make sure that mathematics learning is meaningful. Older pupils discuss the importance of mathematics. For example, pupils explained to inspectors that a knowledge of area was needed to be a landscape gardener.

Pupils have positive attitudes towards their learning. When lessons are engaging, pupils behave well and remain on task. In most classes, teachers have established clear routines and high expectations. However, some pupils in some classes find it difficult to stay on task. This is because teachers do not have high enough expectations of all pupils' behaviour. The routines are not as well embedded in a minority of classes.

Leaders, staff and governors are committed to ensuring that all pupils develop skills that help them prepare for life. They encourage pupils to be independent and resilient. A 'Forces Club' gives support to pupils whose parents and carers are in the Armed Forces. Pupils have time to talk and help each other through the times when their parents may be deployed overseas. Pupils are rightly proud of their sporting achievements. The range of sporting after-school clubs has helped pupils to be highly successful in competitive events.

Leaders ensure that pupils learn about the wider world. They learn about different cultures and religions. Pupils spoke with respect when talking about diversity and different families. They know that everyone is equal. Older pupils told the inspectors, 'It doesn't matter who you love, that's ok.'

Staff appreciate the support of senior leaders and governors. They recognise leaders' efforts to ensure that their well-being and workload are a priority. There is a strong sense of community in the school. The support given to families throughout the national COVID-19 restrictions shows the care and consideration given to all members of the school community.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The culture of safeguarding is strong. Staff and governors are well trained in how to ensure that pupils are kept safe. Staff recognise the importance of promoting pupils' health, well-being, and social and emotional development.

Leaders ensure that pupils are given the right help if it is needed. They work closely with external agencies to make sure that they receive support should it be required.

Leaders make sure that the appropriate checks are made on staff before they start work in the school. The procedures for the safe recruitment of new staff are robust.

What does the school need to do to improve?

(Information for the school and appropriate authority)

- Leaders have recently introduced a new approach to teaching phonics. Staff have had some training. The new approach is still in the early stages of implementation. Leaders should continue to support staff to deliver the phonics programme effectively and with confidence, so that all pupils learn to read accurately.
- The behaviour of a small minority of pupils in some classes is unsettled because of a lack of established routines and teachers' low expectations. This means that these pupils do not achieve as well as they could. Leaders should work with teachers to ensure that they have suitably high expectations of pupils' behaviour and that they support pupils to live up to these.

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.

If you are the school and you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

Further information

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

In the report, '[disadvantaged pupils](#)' refers to those pupils who attract government pupil premium funding: pupils claiming free school meals at any point in the last six years and pupils in care or who left care through adoption or another formal route.

School details

Unique reference number	120532
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10199279
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	196
Appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair of governing body	Julia Vause
Headteacher	Craig Elliott
Website	www.navenbyschool.com
Date of previous inspection	18 September 2006, under section 5 of the Education Act 2005

Information about this school

- The school received a section 48 inspection, which is an inspection of the school's religious character, in November 2017, when this aspect of the school's work was graded as outstanding.
- The school does not make use of any alternative providers.

Information about this inspection

The inspectors carried out this inspection under section 5 of the Education Act 2005.

This was the first routine inspection the school had received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Inspectors discussed the impact of the pandemic with school leaders, and have taken that into account in their evaluation.

- During the inspection, inspectors met with the headteacher, the deputy headteacher, the special educational needs and/or disabilities coordinator, curriculum subject leaders and teachers from across all year groups. Inspectors

spoke with members of the governing body, including the chair, and a representative of the local authority.

- Inspectors spoke with several groups of pupils to talk about their learning across the curriculum.
- Inspectors carried out deep dives in the following subjects: reading, mathematics, art and physical education. Inspectors spoke with the leaders of these subjects. Inspectors visited lessons, spoke with pupils and teachers, listened to pupils read and looked at pupils' work and documentation to understand the quality of education.
- To evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding, inspectors reviewed school policies, procedures and records. Inspectors spoke with the designated safeguarding lead. Inspectors also spoke to staff, governors and pupils about the school's approach to keeping pupils safe.
- Inspectors observed pupils' behaviour in lessons and around the school.
- Inspectors considered 51 responses to Ofsted Parent View, as well as 34 free-text comments. Inspectors spoke with groups of staff to gain their views.

Inspection team

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