

Report: Pupils are 'first class'

Photograph: Chas Breton

# Success for school that's aiming high

**EXEMPLARY** leadership by head teacher Hilary Eade has seen improvements at The Manor Church of England Primary School in Coalpit Heath despite a period of staff changes.

Inspectors from education watchdog Ofsted rated the school good after their latest visit, saying it had not only sustained its strengths but also added to them.

They said Ms Eade had motivated staff to have high ambitions for pupils' achievement and said improvement had been good in recent years, especially in maths and writing.

Reporting inspector David Carrington said: "After a dip in achievement in 2009, pupils' progress and attainment have returned to the good levels of earlier years.

"It is evident that pupils make good progress through the school and that attainment is above average.

**Lynne Hutchinson**  
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Their writing skills are a particular strength."

Mr Carrington said children's behaviour was "first class", they were polite and attendance was high.

Lessons were well taught and learning was often lively, involving and motivating.

Pupils aimed high in their learning and he said the calibre of care, guidance and support was outstanding.

There was particular success in the encouragement and reassurance provided for vulnerable pupils or those with barriers to learning.

Mr Carrington said: "A very small number of parents and carers are concerned that their children do not make enough progress in school.

"Changes in staff are seen as a



**Privilege:** Manor CofE Primary head teacher Hilary Eade celebrates the results of an Ofsted inspection with pupils

possible reason for this. However, observations in lessons and the examination of pupils' books show that progress is good in all classes.

"Pupils' basic skills are developed effectively. The more able are challenged well and the proportion of pupils reaching the higher levels is rising steadily and is above average. Pupils' thorough enjoyment of school adds to their potential as good learners."

The inspectors said teaching was good and the curriculum was well-balanced and increasingly rich and relevant.

Three quarters of parents and carers completed questionnaires and the main view was that staff and school leaders provided a "motivating, caring and interesting" education for their children.

Ms Eade said: "It's great that the Ofsted team has recognised The

Manor C of E Primary as a fantastic school. Of course, governors, staff, parents and pupils knew this already.

"Praise from Ofsted for so many aspects of school life is richly deserved by the children and an amazing team of committed professionals, who will continue to aim high in everything they do. It is a privilege to be head teacher of this school."