

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

All Saints Church of England Primary School, Stand			
Address	Rufford Drive, Whitefield, Manchester, M45 8PL		
Date of inspection	23 January 2020	Status of school	Voluntary controlled primary
Diocese	Manchester	URN	I05325

Overall Judgement	How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	Grade	Excellent
Additional Judgement	The impact of collective worship	Grade	Excellent

School context

All Saints is a voluntary controlled primary school with 240 pupils on roll. The school has a very low level of religious and cultural diversity and very few pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is in line with national averages. The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is below national averages. Staffing has remained stable in recent years. Since the last inspection the headteacher is on a phased retirement, currently working four days a week. Her deputy is acting headteacher for one day a week.

The school's Christian vision

Happy are we who journey together in faith and love.

This is based on Matthew 5:3-10. 'Happy are the poor in spirit for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.'

Our Christian vision, deeply rooted in Christ's teaching, the Beatitudes, embraces and enriches all aspects of school life. Our nurturing ethos, committed to promoting a child-centred philosophy and development of the whole child, is firmly based on our core Christian values, as we all journey together in faith and love.

Key findings

- The Christian vision and its biblical roots strongly underpin the life and work of the school. The vision is shared and lived out by the whole school community. Pupils seamlessly link Christian values to the teachings of Jesus and to their own lives and conduct.
- The strong, determined leadership of the headteacher drives forward the vision. Her considerable knowledge and skills filter down, developing pupils and adults. Their total commitment to the Christian vision ensures relationships and behaviour are exemplary.
- The impact of collective worship in promoting the Christian vision and values is excellent. Worship is inclusive and invitational and pupils are eager to participate. Prayer is a strength.
- Religious education (RE) is well led and managed. The subject leader has ensured robust planning and assessment systems are in place. Pupils demonstrate a deep understanding of Christianity as a living faith.
- The school is highly skilled at meeting the academic needs of all its pupils. Vulnerable pupils are quickly identified and effectively supported. This ensures all are challenged, thrive and flourish.

Areas for development

- To continue to review and develop the way the Christian vision and values shape school policies. This will further embed the vision and values across the whole curriculum.
- To implement plans, already in place, to develop global partnerships. This will enable pupils to challenge injustice and take social action in the global community.

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Inspection findings

The Christian vision is deeply rooted in theology and completely embedded in the life and work of the school. It underpins many school policies. Some policies, however, are under review and would be strengthened by making more explicit links to the Christian vision and values. The experienced leadership team drive forward the vision with passion. The headteacher's long service on the Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) and the provision of professional development for future school leaders is a strength. This ensures all stakeholders have an excellent understanding of the school as a Church school. As a result, all pupils and adults are given the support and skills they need to flourish. The partnership with a local Jewish school enabled one senior leader to share her experience and expertise whilst supporting with staff recruitment. Pupils say the vision 'Helps us with life and builds up trust in Jesus.' Governors have a clear understanding of the development and biblical roots of the vision. They are very knowledgeable about the faith dimension of the school and are heavily involved in self-evaluation. The vision and values committee is part of a robust system that evaluates the school's effectiveness as a Church school. This leads to detailed strategic planning and a relentless drive to develop still further. All members of the school community live out and proudly promote the core Christian values. Pupils seamlessly link them to the teachings and life of Jesus.

The academic needs of all pupils are exceptionally well met. The school targets its resources effectively to overcome barriers to learning and address the needs of vulnerable pupils. As a result, pupils consistently perform above national averages and disadvantaged pupils make at least the same progress as the non-disadvantaged. Parents affirm that the school is aspirational for all. They say their children are well prepared for the next phase of their education. Spiritual development is exceptionally well developed. Additional funding is used to provide a range of 'Wow' experiences. The school has a rich prayer life and pupils have regular opportunities for quiet and reflection. Prayer is intrinsically woven into the school day. Pupils say, 'It makes you feel closer to God.' Both spontaneous and formal prayers for example, the Apostles' Creed, are used confidently enabling all to grow spiritually.

Relationships between all members of the school community are excellent. Parents and carers are overwhelmingly supportive of the school. They say, 'You can feel the Christian ethos as soon as you walk in.' Parents of pupils with complex needs say their children thrive here. Parents see their children practise Christian values at home. The mental health and wellbeing of all is a priority for leaders. Pupil 'Wellbeing Warriors' evidence the effectiveness of interventions for example, nurture groups and play therapy. Pupils, families and staff sensitively support each other during difficult times. Staff say it is a privilege to work at the school. They describe themselves as a family saying, 'We celebrate together and comfort each other when needed.' Pupils live out the Christian vision in the local community by visiting residents of a care home. The continuous promotion of Christian values ensures pupils' behaviour is exemplary. Pupils practise forgiveness and reconciliation, relating this to the teaching of Jesus and the impact on others.

Collective worship is excellent. There is strong sense of the school family coming together in love to worship. Its inclusive nature leads to Key Stage 2 buddies supporting younger pupils. Those with additional needs are given the confidence to participate fully. Pupils from faiths other than Christianity say they can choose how to engage with worship. Collective worship develops a clear understanding of the Holy Trinity. Pupils confidently discuss God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit and can relate this to key Christian festivals. Worship planning is of a high quality and includes rigorous evaluation by pupils. The worship committee has a key role in planning and leading worship in school and church. The long-established partnership with the local church and incumbent is described as 'inspiring' and is seen as invaluable in continuing to increase pupils' involvement. All recommendations from the previous SIAMS inspection have been successfully addressed.

Pupils know and understand the similarities and differences between major world religions for example, between Christianity and Islam. Inclusion is a strength of the school. All are accepted and valued as unique. Pupils speak with knowledge and maturity about difference and diversity saying, 'We are all the same inside.' They have opportunities to develop their skills of courageous advocacy. They understand how they can make a difference referring back to prior worship learning saying, 'For each one of the starfish, the girl made a difference.' Pupils speak about the importance of tolerance and respect, linking these values intelligently to prejudice. Pupils are

passionate about caring for the environment. Younger pupils learn about looking after God's world by growing their own vegetables. Other pupils contributed to an upcycling event in the church.

RE meets statutory requirements and is competently managed by an experienced subject leader. Pupils' knowledge of the Bible and the teachings of Jesus is impressive. RE teaches about major world faiths and provides a safe space for pupils to discuss their own beliefs and convictions. Critical engagement with the text and carefully planned activities encourage pupils to address 'big questions.' They explore core theological concepts for example, Creation. RE assessment systems are detailed and link to future planning. This ensures pupils' skills and religious literacy are progressively developed.

There are numerous opportunities for pupil leadership. These include the school council, 'Mates' and buddy system. Pupils are proud of their roles and responsibilities and use them to good effect to transform the lives of others. The school undertakes an array of charity work and social action projects. Pupils connected the value of compassion to the plight of homeless people and organised a clothing collection. They demonstrate a mature awareness of global inequality and leaders are currently developing a global link.

Pupils are taught that life is a journey. They say the school's Christian values challenge them to push themselves and aspire to be their very best. It is very clear that in this school 'You can be anything you want to be.'

Headteacher	Gail Branch
Inspector's name and number	Anne Barker 959