

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>Baines Endowed Primary School, A Church of England Academy</b>			
Address	Penrose Avenue, Blackpool, FY4 4DJ		
Date of inspection	27 February 2020	Status of school	Academy inspected as Voluntary Aided. Cidari Education Limited
Diocese	Blackburn	URN	141611

<b>Overall Judgement</b>	How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Additional Judgements</b>	<b>The impact of collective worship</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Excellent</b>
	<b>The effectiveness of religious education (RE)</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Excellent</b>

### School context

Baines Endowed is a primary academy with 527 pupils on roll. The majority of pupils are of White British heritage. Very few pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is well above national averages. The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is above national averages. Since the last denominational inspection there have been significant changes to the senior leadership team. The school converted to an academy in March 2015.

### The school's Christian vision

'With God, nothing is impossible.' Luke 1:37

By valuing all God's children, teaching them to learn, develop and grow in the Gospel values. We will allow them the opportunity to believe that, with the love of God, Son and Holy Spirit, they can achieve what they aim to achieve.

### Key findings

- The unique and biblically rooted Christian vision implicitly shapes all aspects of school life, drives school improvement, but it is not explicitly celebrated or widely articulated by all stakeholders.
- Christian leadership at all levels prioritise the academic, pastoral, social and spiritual needs of each pupil, so that they are able to flourish as unique individuals.
- Relationships at all levels, founded on the deeply embedded Gospel values, create a community of love, respect and compassion. This is particularly evident in the support for the most vulnerable.
- Collective worship is at the heart of the school. It is inclusive, inspirational and reaches out beyond the immediate school family. Pupils play a significant role in all aspects. However, the innovative practice in evidence here and through religious education (RE) is not well shared outside of the school community.
- Excellent RE and the school's wider curriculum intent, results in the pupils' impressive knowledge of the Bible and a range of world faiths, including Christianity. Deep questioning and challenge ensure rapid spiritual development throughout the school.

### Areas for development

- To ensure that the unique Christian vision is explicitly understood and celebrated by the whole school community and beyond.
- Proactively seek opportunities to lead and share innovative practice in collective worship and religious education beyond the school.

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 recently agreed, biblically rooted vision of Baines Endowed Primary School shapes daily life and drives improvement. Enabling all staff and pupils to believe that with God nothing is impossible, it creates an inclusive, safe, nurturing and ambitious community that lives well together. However, the outworking of the vision is not excellent because it is not explicitly shared and applied by all stakeholders. This means that the overall understanding of the closely associated values is far deeper than the vision statement.

School leaders, local governors and the academy trust demonstrate an unwavering dedication to improving outcomes for all pupils and their families, often providing additional support, guidance and practical assistance. Governors have a strong commitment to the school and contribute effectively to improvement plans and self-evaluation. They ensure that the Christian distinctiveness of the school is strengthened through rigorous recruitment processes for staff and succession planning opportunities. The wellbeing of staff is prioritised so that they feel valued and well equipped to support families and pupils.

Pastoral support is transformational and coupled with practical assistance, such as providing breakfasts for all pupils, contributes to the school being a beacon of hope for the community that it serves. Senior leaders create a highly motivated, dedicated and effective team. All staff feel valued and therefore create a community that is rooted in love.

Pupils experience an excellent education, founded on a bespoke curriculum that enables each pupil to shine as an individual. Attendance is good because pupils are keen to come to school. The curriculum intent, founded on the vision, inspires and motivates all pupils to work hard and aim high in all lessons. This creates a positive and aspirational environment for all pupils to learn in. Investment in ambitious extracurricular provision and learning opportunities reinforces the vision and exposes pupils to experiences that would not be accessible to them otherwise. Academic progress is good, in particular for the most vulnerable pupils, many of whom begin their formal education from very low starting points. Investment in professional development and the deployment of staff has resulted in pupils being taught and well supported, so that progress and nurture is prioritised for all pupils. Significant adjustments are made to support pupils with additional learning and health needs, including sessions with Pippa, the school's therapy dog.

Quality of provision in RE is particularly strong and innovative, due to the dedicated subject leaders, who provide support and guidance to ensure consistently good teaching across the school. This is a significant improvement since the previous denominational inspection. Guidance from the diocese and multi academy trust ensures that provision meets the recommendations of the Statement of Entitlement for RE. Challenge in lessons is relentless through skilled questioning, which encourages deep thought and results in pupils' excellent engagement in learning and good spiritual development. Pupils talk confidently about their own faith and with insight into a range of world faiths, including an appropriate focus on Christianity. Biblical knowledge and a Christian appreciation of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit is particularly impressive. This is well linked with aspects of the collective worship programme. Creative approaches to teaching and learning, educational visits to places of worship and visitors welcomed into school to inspire pupils further enhance provision.

Pupils are immensely proud of their school and the caring forgiving community that they create. They care for and value each other as unique individuals. As a consequence, the learning environment is calm and purposeful, and they will not accept injustice. Pupils who have had difficulty managing their behaviour have been well supported and provided with alternative behaviour plans, guidance and additional support, within a loving and forgiving environment. Pupil voice is particularly strong, and they are proud to talk about their role in school and the difference that they have made in supporting charities locally, nationally and globally. Pupils are given many opportunities to lead, such as worship leaders, anti-bullying ambassadors, resilient leaders and so on. This enables them to live out the vision and provide support and guidance to their peers. The enthusiastic choir reaches out to community groups and brings joy to their neighbours. The link that the school has developed with Sipiwe

Primary School has given pupils an awareness of education in South Africa and an opportunity to recognise similarities and differences with children in a contrasting locality.

The deeply embedded Gospel values provide a sense of belonging and the foundation of all relationships. Parents acknowledge the impact that this has on pupil development as good human beings. Parents appreciate the 'extra mile' all staff go to in nurturing families. Programmes such as Success for All provide additional family support and life skills development for pupils most in need and their families.

The inspirational worship life of the school is at the heart of all it does. It is transformational, creative and inclusive. It is led by a committed, passionate and faithful leader, who has inspired significant changes since the previous denominational inspection. This has included providing opportunities to strengthen the understanding of the Gospel values at the heart of school life, such as truthfulness, forgiveness and compassion. The popular lunchtime worship club is testament to the priority pupils give to worship during the school day. The pupil worship leaders proudly plan, lead and evaluate weekly class worship. This provides age appropriate and exemplary activities and time to pray and reflect in classrooms. Very high quality displays and reflection spaces are prioritised in each classroom and challenge pupils by the deep questions that are displayed. Worship is enriched by members of the parish. They welcome pupils into church regularly for services and commendably provide spirituality days to enable pupils to pray, reflect and develop spiritually. The Easter experience is particularly meaningful to the pupils, who travel through Holy Week with worship and other activities led by clergy and parishioners.

In summary, pupils, their families and staff at Baines Endowed Primary School are provided with a safe, nurturing and loving family. As the vision is relatively new, the school cannot be judged to be excellent overall, as not all stakeholders are able to realise its impact. Due to the unwavering dedication of the multi academy trust, local governing board and school leaders, they are given every opportunity and support to flourish spiritually, academically and socially. Pupils live by the Gospel values that they are taught and thrive in the knowledge that with God, nothing is impossible.



**The effectiveness of RE is Excellent**

Teaching and learning in RE is exceptional. Robust assessment and moderation procedures have been embedded and as a result, progress is closely tracked for all learners. This effectively supports rapid progress and therefore pupils flourish academically from their various starting points. RE is closely monitored alongside other core subjects which successfully supports the continued refinement of teaching and learning approaches.

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