

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Coppull St John's Church of England Primary School

Vision

'Grow in the Grace and Knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ' (2 Peter 3 v18)

We are a welcoming church school where everyone is valued and encouraged to flourish academically, emotionally and spiritually. We promote a love of learning where individual talents are nurtured; hopes and aspirations can be achieved. Where excitement is evident and enrichment opportunities shape our grace and knowledge. Jesus motivates, inspires and teaches us about living life in all its fullness.

Coppull St John's Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Strengths

- The school's distinctively Christian vision is understood and deeply embedded, influencing decisions and actions at all levels. As a result, pupils and adults flourish.
- Supported by the church, collective worship draws the school community together in an outward expression of the vision. It enriches lives and inspires change for both pupils and adults.
- The curriculum is carefully crafted so pupils' rich understanding of justice encourages them to advocate for change. Pupils are empowered to make a difference on their own as well as when led by adults.
- A shared knowledge of equality and diversity is used to celebrate difference in this inclusive school. This enables an environment where pupils and adults are known, cherished and treated well.
- Religious education (RE) is well led with a comprehensive approach to planning and resourcing. This ensures pupils understand the global nature of Christianity, including the diversity within Christian beliefs, traditions and practice.

Development Points

- Extend opportunities for spiritual development across the curriculum. This will further enhance spiritual flourishing.
- Strengthen pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions and worldviews, beyond Christianity. This is to enable pupils to have accurate and balanced conversations about a range of religions, beliefs and viewpoints.



Inspection Findings

Coppull St John's is a warm and welcoming Church school where the vision permeates through positive relationships and mutual respect. Leaders, including governors, are deeply invested in the ongoing development of the school and know it well. They are adept in securing and sustaining fruitful partnerships including with the church, other schools and the diocese. These links enable the school to provide opportunities, for both pupils and adults, beyond those that could be achieved alone. During times of challenge, leaders are guided by the vision to make difficult decisions with grace. They ensure support staff, as well as teachers, have access to high quality professional development. As a result, both pupils and adults flourish. Pupils receive awards that focus on Christian values, providing a framework to live their lives. Families appreciate the way pupils demonstrate the impact of these values through their behaviours at home.

Leaders have created a curriculum which reflects the school's contextual needs. Lesson materials, books and resources that depict people and themes from a range of backgrounds and cultures are plentiful. This ensures differences are discussed and celebrated. Classroom walls, exploration stations and curiosity cubes are all used to further engage pupils' imagination and wonder. In some subjects, 'big questions' are considered, discussed and reflected on. Year 6 pupils, for example, consider 'What would God think about war?' Nonetheless, opportunities to develop spiritually are not intentionally prevalent throughout the curriculum. Guided by the vision to grow in grace, pupils feel safe to make mistakes and use them as an opportunity to build resilience. Pupils' fullness of life is enhanced by a range of visits to conferences, sports events and places of interest. There is a clear focus on meeting the needs of pupils who are identified as vulnerable. Pupils receive same-day support, when needed, through small group interventions and a flexible staff team. Consequently, pupils enjoy their learning and value their time at school. The extra-curricular offer is broad and varied, enhanced by donations from the active Parent Teacher Association (PTA). As a result, new talents are discovered and interests are realised.

Collective worship enriches the spiritual life of the school community. Planning is sequenced to follow the structure of the church calendar, whilst integrating the school's Christian values. As a result, worship is relevant and meaningful. Regular visits from the church vicar help anchor the school in biblical understanding and Anglican tradition. The parish community warmly welcomes children and families to a termly school service, cementing good relationships. Joyful singing lifts hearts and spirits. It is strengthened through signs and actions that invite pupils to participate in different ways. After each worship session, adults and pupils have time in silence to gather their thoughts. Reflection journals and classroom prayer spaces provide a record of pupils' thoughts and spiritual insight. A focus on 'a year of prayer' has enabled pupils and adults to think creatively about their connection to God. Worship encourages pupils to explore current events and global affairs. This cultivates a sense of awe and curiosity about the wider world. As a result, pupils and adults flourish academically, emotionally and spiritually.

The school's equitable culture enables an environment where pupils and adults treat others well. Behaviour in and around the school is exceptionally good. Reflecting the vision, key strategic and budgetary leadership decisions support the school's commitment to positive mental health. Bespoke programmes are used to equip pupils with the tools to manage conflict and overcome challenges. Parents are assured that staff listen to any concerns and address them promptly. For example, staff help pupils to develop strategies that empower them to navigate their friendships. As a result, pupils develop meaningful connections that make them feel happy and safe. Leaders are mindful of the mental health of staff. Streamlining of systems and adaptations to procedures increases efficiency and reduces workload. Staff feel valued and supported both professionally and during times of personal challenge.



Leaders are keenly aware of any specific needs of pupils and their families and strive to meet them. This includes those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. As a result, voices are heard and pupils thrive.

A commitment to justice motivates pupils to impact positively on the world. Opportunities to learn about matters of global significance and injustice are intentionally planned for. Topic work enables pupils to explore different perspectives and learn about their connections with others around the world. This includes a shared sense of purpose to look after the environment, initiating projects led by the school council and eco squad. The school challenges stereotypical viewpoints and through this, pupils learn that inequality exists within and across communities. Acting on their school value of 'service', pupils are empowered to speak up for what they believe in. They do this by purchasing fair trade products and sharing personal enterprise projects to demonstrate the difference they can make as an individual. The impact of this outreach reinforces a strong sense of community, service and responsibility.

Leaders play a crucial role in ensuring that RE has a high profile in this Church school. Their expertise significantly enhances staff training. Staff feel well equipped to deliver a curriculum that is both stimulating and engaging. A collaborative approach to moderation and exemplification of work equips teachers with curriculum knowledge from Early Years to Year 6. Lessons encourage pupils to explore religious, ethical and philosophical concepts in meaningful ways. Pupils apply their learning through writing, art and drama. Pupils enjoy this variety as it challenges their thinking. Leaders take assessment data into account during curriculum reviews. As a result, they have adapted the curriculum to better address gaps in prior knowledge of worldviews and beliefs beyond Christianity. Visits to a range of places of worship complement this.

Leaders effectively monitor and evaluate the quality of teaching and learning which informs future training and planning. Systems are in place and staff at all levels have a good understanding of pupils' progress in RE. Pupils are increasingly engaging with complex, thought-provoking questions, demonstrating a growing capacity for critical reflection. This ensures pupils understand the global nature of Christianity, including the diversity within Christian beliefs, traditions and practice. However, pupils' knowledge and understanding of religions and views, beyond Christianity, is underdeveloped. This is because adaptations to the curriculum are in the early stages. Pupils can explain some religious practices but cannot confidently describe how they arise from an underlying fundamental belief. The use of regular retrieval opportunities helps pupils to build confidence over time.

Information

Address	Coppull St John's Church of England Primary School, Preston Road, Coppull, Chorley PR7 5DU		
Date	12 March 2025	URN	119469
Type of school	Voluntary Aided	No. of pupils	86
Diocese/District	Blackburn		
Headteacher	Samantha Abram		
Chair of Governors	Sally Gregson		
Inspector	Lisa Draper		