

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Caverswall St Peter's Church of England Primary School	
Address	School Lane, Caverswall, ST11 9EN
How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	
Overall grade	Good
The impact of collective worship	Good
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Good

School's vision
<p>At St. Peter's, the life and teachings of Jesus Christ are at the heart of our school. Here pupils are valued, cared for and developed to their fullest potential; spiritually, intellectually and physically. Our nurturing environment is underpinned by Christian values.</p> <p>"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." (Luke 10:27)</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are strong and supportive relationships across the school community, rooted in care, love and respect. • Leaders put into practice the vision of loving Christ, loving learning and loving each other, so that all members of the school community can flourish. • Collective worship is thoughtfully planned and delivered, providing opportunities for spiritual development. Pupils have limited involvement in evaluating and planning worship. • Strong leadership of religious education (RE) ensures the curriculum is taught effectively. However, pupils lack understanding of how to make progress in RE. • The school is charitably minded and pupils engage enthusiastically in fund-raising. However, pupils have less opportunity to engage in considering the roots of injustice.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop assessment and standards in RE to support pupil's understanding to make better progress. • Improve opportunities for pupils to evaluate and plan worship in order to deepen their spirituality. • Build on charitable activities to develop pupil's understanding of the causes of injustice.



Inspection findings

The school has a clear Christian vision, rooted in loving Christ, loving learning and loving each other. Leaders and governors are fully committed to the vision. This makes a significant difference in the lives of all members of the school community. Governors are actively involved in the life of the school, resulting in the vision being lived out by staff and pupils. Staff and pupils in the school have a strong understanding of how to live out the school's vision. This results in strong relationships between staff, parents and pupils. Leaders are committed to maintaining beneficial and reciprocal relationships with the local church. Parents reflect children are excited about church celebrations and children take up multiple opportunities to share in parish worship. Collaborative partnerships with local schools benefit staff, however the school's relationship with the Diocesan education team is limited to RE.

'Loving learning' is a core element of the school's vision. Pupils enjoy a rich and varied curriculum, having a positive impact on learner's academic development. Leaders creatively shape the curriculum to enable breadth of learning, for example within history studying the origins of the Church of England. Therefore, pupils value learning and explore subjects with curiosity. The vision drives the school to have a priority on vulnerable pupils. This ensures students with specific needs benefit from extra support and fully access the curriculum.

The vision's focus on 'loving one another' drives the school to be compassionate. Pupils are enthusiastic about raising money and working for charitable causes. For example, pupils spoke about being excited to litter pick in the community, raise money for organisations and collect for the food bank. Pupils are aware of social and global needs and want to make a difference in the world. However, pupils have limited choice in initiatives and have minimal opportunities to reflect on the causes of injustice. A broad curriculum, as well as a focus on national and global events, supports the pupils in questioning their view of the world. Therefore, pupils articulate wanting to make a positive difference in the world through 'loving others'.

The school's vision drives relationships across the school. Pupils speak 'caring for each other' and about staff who 'show us love and kindness'. This impacts positively on relationships between students as well as with staff and parents. Behaviour is very good, and pupils are taught and shown how to resolve differences. Therefore, pupils successfully use forgiveness and reconciliation and know how to be a good friend. The school's vision is reflected in mental health and wellbeing policies and practices. As a result, pupils feel their mental health is well supported and that each child is special. Staff speak of the school being like a family and of support from leaders and governors. Hence, staff support each other, often praying together, and flourish in their work. Parents value the strength of relationships in St Peter's and the approachability of staff. Consequently, parents, some of whom attended the school as a child, choose the school over others in the area.


Pupils accurately speak of how the vision helps them to respect others. Leaders and staff thoughtfully and sensitively implement policies, ensuring the safety and dignity of all members of the school community. Therefore, pupils treat each other with kindness and demonstrate respect to staff and members of the community. Staff, through the curriculum and in worship, talk about the differences in how festivals and religious practices are expressed in the world. Hence, pupils have a good understanding of other cultures and religions.

Collective worship reflects the school's vision of looking to the 'life and teachings of Jesus Christ'. Worship is carefully planned and well delivered, using stories from across the Bible. Pupils find worship a meaningful and spiritual experience. Belief is expressed and explored

through a variety of activities, including singing, listening, creative actions, prayers and talking together. One pupil reflected that the fruit of the spirit were like ‘a guide for how to be like Jesus’. As a result, worship is enjoyable and inclusive, and pupils are inspired to grow in their faith. The school has recently begun organising a lunchtime ‘Worship Club’, a group for pupils to plan and prepare to lead assemblies. However, pupils across the school do not have the opportunity to fully plan and evaluate the impact of worship. Parents are invited to be involved in worship in school and the local church on special occasions, for example the Mothering Sunday Service and Harvest. Consequently, parents speak of worship having a positive impact on their own faith and offering a sense of belonging to the church community. The local parish church is frequently used by the school, and the priest regularly leads worship in the school. Therefore, pupils experience different traditions within the church leading to a broader and deeper understanding of Christianity. Staff engage in worship and value the opportunity to pray, sing and consider the teachings of Jesus. One staff member commented being in worship ‘inspires me and allows me to reflect on life’. Thus, staff’s own spirituality is explored and developed through worship.

RE fosters ‘loving learning’ by successfully implementing the vision. Lessons offer a safe space to explore different faith beliefs and ask big questions. Therefore, pupils engage enthusiastically with content and understand the relationship between faith practices and beliefs. However, pupils do not know how to make progress in RE. Links are made across the curriculum, and pupils enjoy discovering connections between RE and other subjects. Curriculum focus on Christianity and other world faiths drives an appreciation of faith in today’s world. Consequently, pupils understand Christianity as a global faith expressed differently across cultures.

All members of the Caverswall St Peter’s community are united in their desire to live out their Christian values. Parents rightly praise the commitment of the headteacher and staff, who make a significant difference in the lives of pupils and their families.

	The effectiveness of RE is		Good
	<p>RE expresses the school’s vision by accessing quality resources and delivering well taught lessons. The diocesan syllabus provides a clear action plan which is well structured. RE is academically challenging, hence pupils make good progress in their learning. Staff access high quality diocesan training and are well-supported and resourced by a gifted and passionate subject leader. Assessments and progress pathways are used, enabling staff to monitor progress in RE.</p>		
Information			
School	Caverswall St Peter's Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	18 May 2023
URN	124331	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided
Diocese/District	Lichfield	Pupils on roll	133
Headteacher	Sarah George		
Chair of Governors	Sue Simcock		
Inspector	Stephen Birkinshaw	No.	2213