

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Latymer All Saints Church of England VA Primary School

Address 41 Hydethorpe Avenue, Edmonton, United Kingdom, N9 9RS

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)

Excellent

School's vision

In our school we love deeply, respecting everyone and treating them with dignity; we aspire with confidence, working hard and embracing challenge and we serve God and the community, following the example of Jesus, to create a better world.

'Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us' Ephesians 5 v2

Key findings

- Strong leadership provided by the senior team ensures that the Christian vision drives the education of the whole child and shapes the direction of the school. However, monitoring of the vision by leaders is not robust enough.
- The new vibrant curriculum, underpinned by the school's Christian vision, is effective in enabling all pupils to flourish academically and spiritually. Pupils are currently developing an understanding of the exploitation of the natural world and beginning to be global advocates for change.
- Latymer All Saints is committed to the wellbeing of everyone in the school community. There is a particularly strong focus on positive mental health, while love and care for others are at the heart of school's work ethos.
- Worship helps pupils and adults to grow spiritually. It impacts positively upon behaviour and relationships in the school, particularly through an emphasis on love, aspiration and service.
- Religious education (RE) makes an outstanding contribution to the school's effectiveness as a Church school. Pupils value and enjoy RE, which is creative, engaging and challenging. The innovative RE curriculum enables pupils to explore life's 'big questions' which has resulted in excellent outcomes.

Areas for development

- Leaders to develop more effective systems to monitor and evaluate the impact of the school's vision in order to more explicitly drive improvements and the ongoing development of the school as a Church school.
- Extend pupils' appreciation of and involvement with global issues so that they have a deeper understanding of equality across the world.
- Ensure that all policies consistently reflect the school's vision and values to more accurately gauge its impact.

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

There is a safety net of love and care at Latymer All Saints. The school is welcoming and inclusive, particularly to vulnerable families. This flows directly from their vision as a Church school. Key Christian values of love, aspiration and service work in tandem with the school's vision. Numerous displays depicting these are clearly visible around the building. This means that they are known by all and weave a tangible thread through the life of the school community. The governors and senior leadership team ensure that the Christian vision drives decisions and strategic direction. Almost all of the school policies reflect the Christian vision. Leaders are determined to provide rich opportunities in order to widen the limited horizons of many of their pupils. However, the system of monitoring and evaluating the school's vision and Christian distinctiveness lacks clarity and focus.

Partnerships with parents and the local church community are very positive. The school's vision embraces constructive engagement with parents. Communication between parents and the school has improved considerably recently because of a determined effort that all shall be included, valued and loved. Senior leaders are present in the playground every morning to greet families and listen to any concerns. Parents particularly value the inspirational scripture quotations in weekly newsletters and say these help them in their daily lives. Regular prayer groups in school and the prayer space on the school's website offer wider opportunities for parents and families to grow spiritually. Forest school and other outdoor learning, such as working in the edible garden, give adults and pupils memorable experiences, allowing them to flourish spiritually.

The vibrant, aspirational curriculum supports and engages children to discuss 'big' questions such as 'Can rules bring freedom? and 'Where do we find strength?" It provides a broad range of learning opportunities enabling all to flourish academically, including the vulnerable. The newly-adopted 'courageous culture' initiative permeates through everything the school does and is particularly effective in promoting confidence. In this way the specific learning needs of all pupils are met effectively. Pupils' understanding of diversity and equality is good because of engaging learning themes within the curriculum. One such initiative is the annual inspirational person focus project. Studying young role models such as Amanda Gorman and Greta Thunberg allow pupils to see that young people can have influence and be advocates of change.

The whole school community shows compassion towards others. Pupils show care by taking part in fund raising projects for charities which support local foodbanks and the homeless. Involvement in these activities means that pupils understand that they can make a difference within their local community. There have been few global connections or initiatives in recent years, so pupils' understanding of wider global society is limited.

The restorative behaviour policy ensures that pupils are given opportunities to reflect on their actions and is having a positive impact. This has led to improved behaviour and learning outcomes for many pupils and is a clear expression of the school's vision to aspire with confidence and work hard.

There is a focus on highly effective pastoral care and wellbeing and this reflects the school's vision to love deeply. By achieving the Sandwell Charter Mark, the school demonstrates its commitment to improving mental health. Every child is nurtured as an individual and both pupils and adults are treated with dignity and respect. Vulnerable families are particularly well supported by a Parent Support Adviser who specifically helps pupils and families in need. Staff are skilled at identifying and supporting vulnerable pupils, enabling them to overcome barriers to learning and flourish in a nurturing environment. Consequently, warm and loving relationships characterise the school. Staff speak highly of the professional and personal support provided by school leadership. Their individual talents and gifts are recognised by senior leaders, who encourage them to grow and develop. As a result, staff are provided with valuable career progression opportunities. They recognise this as an outworking of the school's vision of challenging and aspiring to improve.

Collective worship is rooted in Christian values and biblical teaching. It is a joyous time for everyone to come together every day to sing, pray and rejoice. Lively music by the choir adds to the special feel of worship and enriches the lives of the whole community. As one pupil put it, 'I absolutely love singing, it lifts up your heart'. Worship is planned by the staff lead and supported by the vicar. It explores the life and teaching of Jesus, while being relevant to current events. The vicar leads weekly worship in school and as the church is adjacent to the school, worship between church and school is truly integral. All pupils have opportunities to plan and lead worship and as a result gain self-confidence. Areas set aside for prayer in classrooms are accessible and readily used, allowing pupils to reflect during the day.

Ambitious, aspirational RE makes an excellent contribution to flourishing. Themes are planned skilfully to reflect the needs of the school's unique population. The newly introduced 'RE Learning Journey' provides an exceptionally engaging curriculum, enabling all pupils to contribute to lively discussions. Careful questioning and deep-thinking help pupils to explore and reflect on their own beliefs. The depth of responses and extent of challenge is reflected in the high quality of the work they produce. Links to the London Diocese are strong, enabling leaders and staff to access regular training. As a result of exceptionally strong leadership in RE, staff have a solid subject knowledge and deliver the topics with confidence.

The school's Christian vision and values permeate throughout the whole school community ensuring all flourish. One governor succinctly summarised this as, 'We all grow, we're all the fruits, not just the children. There's always someone there for you; we have your hand.'



The effectiveness of RE is

Excellent

Because of a highly innovative, creative curriculum, teaching and learning in RE is excellent. Monitoring and assessment procedures are extremely robust. As a result, a high percentage of pupils, including the more able and those with special educational needs, make excellent progress. Evidence of the outstanding work across the school in RE is captured in RE books and stunning 'wonder books'. These demonstrate the very high status of the subject.

Contextual information about the school			
Date of inspection	04 October 2022	URN	102041
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2015		
School status	VA	NOR	570
Name of Multi Academy Trust or Federation			
Diocese or Methodist Circuit	London		
Headteacher	Catherine Brennan		
Proportion of pupils deemed to be disadvantaged	Above National Average		
Proportion of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities	Above National Average		
Additional significant information (if needed)			
Inspector's name	Jennifer Earp	No.	0288