

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Clayhanger Holy Trinity Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Church Street, Clayhanger, WS8 7EG
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

School's vision
<p>Through the teaching of Jesus, and by his example, God makes it possible for us to 'love', 'adventure' and 'grow'.</p> <p>Matthew 19:26 Jesus looked at them and said, "With man this is impossible, but with God all things are possible."</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exceptionally committed leadership and staff team are key to giving pupils hope and aspirations which enable them to flourish. The vision and its biblical underpinning are well known and inform the decision making. God is at the heart of this school community. • Worship leaders are effective in delivering class worship to their peers, they evaluate the worship led by staff and visitors. They are also growing and learning from the feedback being given to them. The 'Prayer Shack' open daily is also facilitated by the worship leaders. • Pupils behave very well and relationships between all members of this community are supportive and loving. Pupils talk about how they are kind and encouraged to love one another just like Jesus taught us to. Pupils are currently not being given sufficient opportunities to act as agents of change. • All children and families are supported to flourish in this hospitable school community. This is supported by the well-established relationships with St. James' Church and the local Methodist and Evangelical Churches. • Pupils enjoy their adventure curriculum and character development which enables further flourishing. The curriculum, in religious education (RE), does not allow children enough opportunities to recall prior knowledge before starting a new adventure.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop deeper links between school, home and church to expand the vision so that there is a greater sense of shared ownership. • Provide more opportunity for children to become agents of change so that they increase their growing awareness of issues in the world in which they live. • Further develop the adventure curriculum to ensure that there is a recap of prior learning in religious education thus enabling all children to flourish further.



Inspection findings

Holy Trinity is a loving and caring community with its vision at its heart and also its decision making. The vision was established after much prayerful consideration involving all in the community. The vision and its outward manifestation was evident during the pandemic with telephone calls home daily to pupils and families. The school rightly focused on the well-being of each individual child, family and staff member ensuring that on the return to school all continued to flourish. Staff and families felt very well supported with parents commenting that it was amazing. They especially valued the personalised messages for their child. Parents are very enthusiastic about the work of this church school.

Leaders, including governors, have a strong understanding of how the school's Christian vision drives its work. Governors monitor the impact of the vision and receive regular reports from the dedicated headteacher. The steering group has been strategic in bringing the vision to life in this school community. This dedicated group meet regularly to drive the improvements and evaluate the impact of the vision on all at Holy Trinity. They recognise that they are on a journey, since the appointment of the current headteacher, and are keen to develop deeper links with the community that they serve. The children and families are the focus of the decision-making process and this is to ensure that all flourish.

The rich adventure curriculum, designed by the leadership team, enables pupils to engage with learning so that they can flourish, reaching their potential. The pupils make connections with the world in which they live and ask a range of big questions as they go on their adventures through the topics they study. Pupils find out about charities that they can support, including Christian Aid and Islamic Relief. Their charity giving allows them to show their 'love' locally, nationally and internationally also developing their knowledge of other faiths. Taste is an international charity based in Nigeria and pupils have collected coins in an empty water bottle and return this to school to make a donation effectively demonstrating their 'love' for others. The Shoebox Appeal is also supported each Christmas. However there are less opportunities for children to make a difference by acting as agents for change.

Strong relationships result in a calm and supportive learning environment where pupil behaviour is very good enabling children to 'grow'. Forgiveness and loving each other are key to the respectful relationships between all children and adults as they live out the vision each day. One pupil commented that 'Everyone is a family'. Some older children are play leaders and engage the younger children in playing well with their peers at lunchtimes, modelling this behaviour for others to follow. One pupil commented that 'Teachers love us and we are not told off, we are loved'. The pupils enjoy earning gold stars for following Jesus' examples of how to love and then spending these on items of their choice at the holy trinkets shop. Mental health and wellbeing has a high priority with a dedicated member of staff to support this in pupils, parents and staff. All are supported to flourish with staff enjoying a well-being day each term.

There is a shared understanding of spirituality and classrooms have a cube focal point, along with a cross and cloths in liturgical colours. They have age-appropriate prayer resources allowing pupils to be successful in this aspect of school life by praying for others. The staff team have developed a spiritual pathway to ensure that pupils are given the experiences as they journey through school. Each child in Year 6 is given a Bible at the start of the school year and they use this during RE and worship to follow the stories that Jesus told. The children all have the opportunity to read from the Bible to their peers. Bibles for Schools enables pupils to engage well with Bible stories in all year groups. Pupils can identify the biblical stories that illustrate the vision accurately. Staff have the opportunity to pray together

but this is not yet at a regular time so that all are able to participate.

Collective worship is the centre of the school day. It is inclusive, invitational, and inspirational. Worship leaders in each class lead worship for their class with great pride and take their responsibilities very seriously. A pupil worship mentor from Year 6 supports children in school to plan and lead worship for their class with dedication and skill, successfully ensuring that the youngest pupils are engaged in leading worship for their peers. Every child is invited to pray, have time for reflection and stillness. Biblical teachings are remembered and impact on children and their choices. Worship leaders also plan activities and quizzes for their peers to enjoy as part of class worship this ensures that knowledge is recalled and deepened. Pupils sing worship songs with happiness and joy and enjoy coming together for this special time. Parents enjoy joining with their children each week as the school holds a celebration worship to share the success of each child, including those achieved outside of the school day. The senior leadership team, with the help of the vicar, worked hard during lockdown to maintain worship each week, this was greatly valued by the parents and children. The worship leaders also monitor and evaluate the worship led in school by the staff team and clergy. This leads to improvements being made by adults to ensure that pupils are enjoying and engaged during worship.

RE is a core subject and is given priority through the time allocated, funding and continuing professional development provided for the teaching team. The school has been very well supported in their professional development by the diocese which has led to improvements being made in the quality of teaching. Teachers have access to the relevant resources to support the education of the pupils well. As part of the curriculum for RE, pupils have a block of teaching on a theme each half term for an RE adventure week. The children spend a week studying a theme in depth and develop a good understanding of the topic. They do not always have the opportunity to recap their prior learning as they begin a new topic. The school embraces religious festivals, offering pupils the opportunity to explore these in depth and deepen their understanding of world religions and other faiths. The pupils talked with enthusiasm about preparing for their Harvest Festival and the drama that they would be performing for their parents to celebrate this shows the adventure in the vision.

Information			
School	Clayhanger Holy Trinity Church of England VC Primary School	Inspection date	14 October 2022
URN	104223	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Lichfield	Pupils on roll	202
Headteacher	Rebecca Graham		
Chair of Governors	Kay Cresswell-Green		
Inspector	Sara Goddard	No.	976