

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Winterton Church of England Infants' School	
Address	West Street, Winterton, Scunthorpe, DN15 9QF
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	Excellent
The impact of collective worship	Excellent

School's vision
<p>To be the beacon for learning</p> <p>'The teaching of your word is light, so everyone can understand' (Psalms 119:130)</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relationships rooted in the love of Christ are at the heart of this school. Strong, mutually beneficial partnerships and work within the local community are enabling pupils and adults to flourish. • The school's deeply embedded Christian vision flows throughout every aspect of school life. It's transformational impact is a beacon of light for all. • Collective worship involves and engages everyone. It is valued by all the school community and seen as a special time to meet with God and with one another. Pupils and adults grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, song and reflection. • The school has developed a bold and exciting curriculum that is intrinsically rooted in the school's Christian vision. • Religious education (RE) effectively develops pupils' knowledge of other views and world faiths. Pupils think freely, develop their own views and speak with increasing confidence about their learning experiences through RE.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to develop religious literacy with the pupil – providing them with the language to talk and reflect about their learning in RE

Inspection findings

The development of the school's deeply rooted Christian vision is having a significant and transformational impact on the lives of pupils and adults in this school community. The love that is shown for one another is evident in word and deed. The 'beacon for learning' vision goes beyond academic learning and encompasses the whole child. Leaders have high hopes and aspirations for all within the school. They are passionate and relentless in enabling children and adults to live life in all its fullness. The Federation with Winterton Junior School has created an incredibly strong and cohesive leadership team with a clear Christian vision. Governors are able to articulate the school's vision with real clarity and how they believe the teaching of God's word enables children to thrive. The development of the school's vision was seen as a critical process and leaders ensured every stakeholder contributed to its development. Through school policies and practices it is evident that the distinctly Christian vision permeates through every decision, at every level. Leaders have a real desire to make a difference in the lives of every child and adult within the school community. The central place of the school vision in achieving this is recognised and referenced by every member of the school leadership team.

Parents speak in glowing terms of the support that is provided for both them and their children. They feel that the staff are 'worth their weight in gold' and are the best people to help their children 'grow and flourish'. Excellent communication, innovative timetabling and high quality wrap around care ensure strong collaboration between school and carers. The outstanding support that was provided during and after the pandemic by the pastoral team was highly valued and helped families overcome some very challenging and difficult times. Leaders reflected that they couldn't remove the darkness but the light helped overcome it. This work has continued, and the pastoral team are recognised by many as a beacon of light within the school. Staff ensure that every pupil, including those deemed to be disadvantaged, achieve their highest possible standard in every area of school life. Relationships between pupils and staff are filled with love and respect and there is a deep care in developing the whole child by each member of staff. Pupils know they are loved and supported to be the very best they can be. As pupils learn and play together there is a deep presence of peace and joy around the school. Loving relationships are modelled by staff and emulated by the pupils, including Woody the school's therapy dog. Staff highly value the opportunities for individual growth and development under the nurturing and strategic leadership of the school's executive headteacher. As a result, school apprentices, support staff and teachers are accessing regular, relevant and high quality training. This enables them to be beacons of light within the school, guiding pupils and one another in the light of Christ.

The exceptionally strong partnerships that the school have established enrich the school's teaching and sharing of God's word. The school works effectively with Trinity Methodist Church, All Saint's Church and Lincoln Diocese to support the spiritual growth of pupils and adults in the school. Regular visits from Pastor Mike and Reverend Vicky are eagerly anticipated and valued by the school as they lead and support collective worship. All staff speak about the way in which the distinctive Christian vision and values of the Infant school has enriched the Junior school within the Federation. Leaders' strong Christian commitment to diversity and inclusion is reflected through their collaboration with professionals who support pupils with additional needs. School is working closely with the Voices Foundation on their journey to becoming a singing school. Pupils have a real love for singing and they see this as a central part of life in school, evidenced in their passionate and joy-filled singing of This little Light of Mine during a time of collective worship. As a result of these effective partnerships, centred on the strong Christian vision, the school and the wider community are



flourishing.

School leaders have developed a curriculum offer that is ambitious and challenging. It enables pupils to make rapid progress in their learning. Leaders recognise the value that memories and experiences play in pupils' growth and character development – inspired by the film *Inside Out*. Opportunities for these rich learning experiences have been woven into the curriculum, enabling pupils to develop in all aspects of their learning. The curriculum offers ample opportunities for pupils to ask big questions, foster opportunities for creativity and consider their place and role within the world. Leaders also have a strong understanding of what spirituality means for their community. Consequently, the curriculum incorporates excellent opportunities for pupils to explore spirituality across all subjects. The curriculum offer is thoughtfully used to challenge stereotypes and social injustice. Pupils and staff celebrate diversity through carefully planned events throughout the year. The impact of pupil voice at the school challenges injustice and ensures pupils are boldly courageous advocates for change from a very early age. They want to be that beacon of light and seek justice for all. They passionately support foodbanks, the British Legion and fund-raising for victims of the war in Ukraine. In response to litter in the local area children led in bringing about a change, galvanising the school into action. Pupils have a deep-rooted desire to help others and to let their light shine.

Religious education is taught with passion across the school. Effective RE leadership ensures high-quality provision that securely reflects the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement and expresses the vision. As a result, pupils have a strong knowledge and high understanding of different world religions and views including the Trinity and Christianity as a living world faith. Pupils shared that Jesus is in heaven but he is also with us everyday. An environment has been created in which pupils feel safe to explore and discuss religious concepts and big questions. They recognise the value of RE as part of their learning and are inclusive and respectful of the views of others. Pupils take pride in their work and love to reflect on their learning within RE and are developing the language to support these reflections.

Inspirational collective worship is at the heart of the school day. It is valued by the school community for its inclusiveness and transformational impact. Worship is planned, delivered, monitored and evaluated with an effective balance of pupil and adult involvement. The school's core Christian values of trust, peace, friendship, hope, truthfulness and forgiveness underpin the themes for worship throughout the year. Pupils confidently demonstrate age-appropriate knowledge and understanding of Anglican traditions and the importance of the Trinity. The school has a rich culture of prayer and reflection which is seen in every classroom and corridor of the school. These are valued for times of reflection around the worship theme and opportunity for personal spiritual development. Worship, prayer and reflection influence pupils' lives. This is clearly evidenced in the meaningful thoughts and feelings that are recorded across the school and as pupils talk about their own faith and beliefs.

Leaders and staff at Winterton Infants' School are having a significant impact on the community in which they serve. Their love for the school and the wider community shines through and their desire to empower pupils to live life in all its fullness is evident. The highly skilled and effective leadership team is passionate in their drive to create a vibrant and rich learning environment that can be a beacon for learning both now and in the future.



Information			
School	Winterton Church of England Infants' School	Inspection date	31 January 2023
URN	118020	VC/VA/ Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Lincoln	Pupils on roll	168
Executive Headteacher	Cathy Logan		
Chair of Governors	Catherine Kemp		
Inspector	David Akers	No.	2135