

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Tarporley Church of England Primary School	
Address	Park Road, Tarporley, CW6 0AN
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>'Let your Light Shine' (Matthew 5:16)</p> <p>Our vision is a window into our school. Jesus said we are the light of the world and as a school we love and nurture the light in everyone so it can shine brightly and enable all those in our school family to share their good deeds and glorify God as they aspire to be the brightest light they can be.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's distinctive Christian vision 'let your light shine' is the heartbeat and driving force of all action and policy. Dynamic leadership ensures the vision is shared and promoted by all, and through all, and transforms lives. • The school's Christian vision inspires governors and leaders. Governors are highly ambitious for all members of the school community. Pupils and adults are known, understood and nurtured, ensuring that everyone is valued and included. This ensures that everyone is supported. • Pupils and adults benefit from high quality worship which is invitational, inclusive and integral to school life. Carefully planned and evaluated, it entirely encapsulates the school's ethos and vision. It is a joyous event which celebrates pupils' personal and spiritual development, through reflection and prayer. • An innovative and inspiring curriculum meets the needs of the whole child, socially, morally, spiritually and academically. This secures excellent outcomes for pupils, including the most vulnerable. It supports and develops extremely firm foundations, which prepares pupils well for their next steps. • Pupils value, enjoy and are inspired by religious education (RE). They actively explore different faiths, and are empowered to ask big questions and take risks in a safe and secure environment. RE is exceptionally well-led.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To further strengthen pupils' belief in themselves, as leaders of change, and shine their light in their global, national and local communities. • Utilise a rich outdoor environment, so pupils can explore and extend their spiritual awareness, to further enrich their lives.



Inspection findings

Tarporley is an excellent church school, living out its distinctly Christian vision in every way. All members of the school community are empowered to 'let their light shine'. The Christian vision is exceptionally well articulated by leaders, and everyone within the school community. Pupils and staff talk openly about how the vision was inspired from the Sermon on the Mount, and encapsulates their core Christian values. The resulting impact is on the whole child, in mind, body and spirit. Pupils, parents and staff agree that this is a school where everyone is supported. Leaders and staff know their pupils and parents well. Parents talk passionately and openly how the school goes well beyond normal expectations, to ensure that all flourish. They are keen to share deeply personal examples of the emotional support, received by the whole family. This support continues even after pupils have left the school. The school's Christian values of hope, love and friendship is evident in all that they do.

Leadership and governance are strengths of this school. Governors know the school well and are extremely proactive. Led by the Christian vision, governors very effectively monitor and challenge, to make certain the needs of all the pupils are being met. Leaders make bold decisions to ensure the deeply embedded Christian vision has a remarkable impact on the flourishing of all. Staff at this school are nurtured, and as a result, adults thrive. Staff cherish the opportunities and the faith shown in them. They speak highly of the senior leadership team and the excellent support they are given. Leaders and governors' consistent focus on the health and wellbeing of staff, ensures all are supported so their 'light shines'. This results in pupils receiving the best possible education.

Close reciprocal relationships exist with a variety of key partners, including the Diocese of Chester, and the local churches. The headteacher and RE lead actively work with the diocese and other Church schools and do so joyfully and freely. Their outward facing approach demonstrates how they live out the vision, shining their light on others, so they too shine brightly. The excellent links with the local parish and clergy, significantly enhance spiritual growth and understanding of church traditions.

The innovative curriculum design is underpinned by effective key themes. These are the golden threads which are expertly woven throughout the curriculum. Bravery is shown in the high expectations for all learners, who are empowered to take risks and show resilience. The curriculum closely supports the individual needs of all the pupils and reflects the Christian vision in action. Those who are vulnerable or are identified as having special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported, to ensure all flourish.

Pupils demonstrate how they are outward facing, as they consider social issues and are encouraged to empathise with the disadvantaged. One pupil insisted their family donated food and clothing, in response to work on homelessness. Recently, the youngest pupils in school demonstrated their compassion for endangered species. By hosting a bake sale, they raised money to protect crocodiles, and increased awareness in school and beyond.

Pupils demonstrate a strong sense of compassion for those who experience deprivation. Through a national young people's scheme, RotaKids, pupils raise considerable sums of money. These include local initiatives and national charities, such as the food bank and Christian Aid. Nevertheless, there are limited opportunities for pupils to become agents of change across global, national and local communities.

Driven by the vision, spiritual development is clear and opportunities for spirituality exist across the curriculum. Pupils are encouraged to think deeply about big questions and are not afraid to contemplate mystery and meaning. Prayer areas and bespoke spaces, inside the school building, are available for personal reflection. There is a rich outdoor environment.



However, opportunities are missed in utilising this space, to extend further the spiritual development of pupils.

The distinctive Christian vision infuses all aspects of individual character development. Pupils are respectful, independent and polite. They are enthusiastic, not only for their own success but also in encouraging others to achieve. Pupils commented that if you do something good or well, it never goes unnoticed. Pupils deeply value the rewards and praise they receive. This drives their ambitions to be the very best that they can be. Behaviour is exemplary because of the respectful and consistent way in which expectations are modelled, and lived out, by the whole community. Pupils speak of resolving differences with forgiveness. Tarporley celebrates the uniqueness of each person and welcomes everyone into its community. Within this deeply loving culture, pupils know they are valued and loved for who they are.

Collective worship is highly inclusive, invitational, and integral to the life of the school. It is extremely valued and a deeply meaningful time for all to come together. The Christian vision underpins all worship and allows everyone, the opportunity to engage. Pupils have a consistent, central role. Pupils plan and lead a range of collective worship, which enriches the school's spiritual life. The school enjoys a positive and extremely effective relationship with local clergy, who lead weekly worship. Services at the church are led by the school throughout the year and these are appreciated by all. Planning is collaborative with local clergy and it drives rigorous evaluation. Pupils and adults articulate how messages stay with them throughout the day, and how they value that moment of stillness and reflection. As a result, worship has a positive impact on spiritual development.

RE is extremely well-led. Leaders ensure support for teachers' subject knowledge is ongoing within a supportive culture of collaboration and learning from each other. The well-thought through curriculum, supported by effective resources, ensures all Church of England requirements for a Church school are met. Pupils are incredibly proud of the work they produce. They are keen to discuss, expressing lessons or topics they particularly enjoyed and why. The school ensures that, along with Christianity, diversity of faith and thought is studied. A strong feature of the curriculum is the pupils' confidence to ask questions and discuss their views in a safe environment. Pupils state that everyone is allowed to express their own opinions and it is acceptable to disagree. Careful questioning and deep thinking help pupils to explore and reflect on their own beliefs. Links to the diocese are strong and staff access regular training.

All members of Tarporley's distinctly Christian learning community are united in the belief that the school's Christian vision and values are lived out daily. The vision makes a powerful and truly transformational difference to the lives of pupils and adults.



Information			
School	Tarporley Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	17 March 2023
URN	111260	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Chester	Pupils on roll	285
Headteacher	Kerry Forrester		
Chair of Governors	Darren Swann		
Inspector	Pamela Hartley	No.	941