

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Harvington Church of England First School	
Address	Village Street, Harvington, WR11 8NQ
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>Together we love, learn and grow.</p> <p>Our vision is for all to follow God's word, to love each other unconditionally, to take care of each other and to learn and grow as individuals who can make a difference in the world. This is based on the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10: 25-37).</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's distinctive Christian vision is the heartbeat and driving force of all action and policy. Leaders have built a school culture that supports, nurtures and empowers, enabling all to flourish. • Exceptional relationships, rooted in Christian love and trust, make a substantial difference to the everyday lives of the whole school community. Pupils display remarkable dedication in supporting their local community as well as highlighting global issues. • Partnerships between the school, families and members of the local community are highly valued. However, a broader partnership with the diocese and its schools, more generally, could be further developed. • Collective worship is inclusive, invitational and inspirational. It is dynamic, relevant to today's world and has a transformational impact on life decisions made by all pupils and adults. • Pupils develop high levels of subject knowledge in religious education (RE). They are proud of their work and thoughtfully apply their learning to life. However, their knowledge of diversity has been limited.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further strengthen partnerships with local schools and the diocese in order to share good practice and further enrich the school's provision. • Continue to extend the pupils' experience of cultures and difference, to enhance their appreciation of diversity.

Inspection findings

All aspects of school life at Harvington are thoroughly enriched by the Christian vision. The biblical links are clearly understood by all adults and children, matching leaders' desire for all to love, learn and grow. As a result, the school's vision makes a transformative difference to the daily lives of the whole school community. Six thoughtfully selected Christian values are an embedded feature of this inspirational school, for example friendship, trust and forgiveness. These are visibly displayed and exceptionally celebrated by staff and pupils alike. Everyone has an explicit understanding of the Christian roots of the values. One pupil rightly explained that they lead to 'better choices as we all take care of our neighbours'. Following a worship focus on courage, pupils actively sought out opportunities to support each other in the face of challenges.

The vision radiates through the school's love of its community. Highly conducive and mutually beneficial partnership between the school and the local church are evident. The dedication of school leaders, coupled with the vision, inspires courageous decisions that empower staff and pupils alike. The vision's biblical roots were carefully chosen to reflect the school's aspirations for its community. Leaders correctly explained that the verse 'love your neighbour as yourself', is the cornerstone behind the supportive successes of the school. The planned curriculum provides a wealth of spiritual development opportunities. Consequently, pupils flourish as they frequently and effectively appreciate their place in God's world. Leaders invest in the development of their staff and the schools' governance. They actively seek out frequent opportunities to work with local schools. As a result, they have a sound understanding of Church school education. However, a broader partnership with the diocese and its schools, more generally, are at the early stages of development.

The vision drives leaders' desires for all pupils and adults to reach their full potential. A well-established and robust system for self-evaluation ensures continued improvement as a Church school. Governors and leaders effectively involve and incorporate the views of the pupils' 'Sunshine group'. The feedback received is analysed and has led to bold decisions that enable all to flourish. Pupils' interaction with members of the local community across the generations is extremely impressive. Consequently, these pupil-led and church linked initiatives are highly valued. They harness strong relationships between all concerned. Leaders epitomise Christian love and compassion towards everyone in the school family, frequently going the 'extra mile'. This includes funding additional provision where there is a specific need. The emphasis placed on nurturing everyone is exceptional. This applies both in the school and local community, where every family is cherished. This highly inclusive and holistic approach guarantees that pupils have all they need to access their learning, whatever their circumstances.

The school's vision champions the concept of God's love. It instils hope and propels pupils into action. They actively seek and find innovative solutions to the problems they encounter. For example, pupils have ingenious ideas when 'caring for God's world', such as their exceptional school community recycling campaign. Their initiative has resulted in both family and school groundbreaking practices as they demonstrate 'love for our planet'. Pupils display extensive perseverance and resilience in tackling such issues. Pupils are well-informed as to events nationally as well as globally. Although most activities focus on the local community, pupils' understanding of the wider world is developing. For instance, through the links with a school in Tanzania. Highly effective learning opportunities identify Christianity as a multicultural global faith, with acutely relevant and engaging links.

Pupils rightly speak of how the vision inspires them to 'help each other every day'. Pupils actively seek opportunities to ensure that 'everyone is loved', with peer mediators modelling

positive relationships. These extremely strong connections are modelled by all staff, resulting in a harmonious and exhilarating learning environment. Parents champion many examples that highlight how the school is a 'loving family'. They explain their profound gratitude to staff and feel that they could approach them about anything. Many personal stories showcase how Harvington makes a transformational difference, always putting others first. The school's support for those in need resulted in an impressive response when collecting for those displaced by war. Significant donations were made by so many that additional logistical arrangements were required. Forgiveness and reconciliation are highly valued by all, as they 'treat others as you want to be treated'. Equality for all is championed in all decision making. This ensures that every child is able to access all enrichment opportunities, regardless of barriers. Leaders and staff work tirelessly to ensure that all are able to benefit and flourish.

Collective worship encompasses the Christian vision's theme of loving one another. It sets the tone of the day and is rooted in biblical teaching, putting Christ at the heart. Worship is highly inclusive and invitational with a far-reaching impact. Pupils look forward to gathering together and value the times of reflection it provides. There are well-established routines for their feedback on worship and they have a strong voice. Consequently, pupils lead many aspects of this special time, with joyous singing particularly evident. Worship is exceptionally engaging and includes relevant and varied themes. It deepens pupils' spirituality, aids their understanding of Christian values. Furthermore, it provides profound examples of people living out their faith. Reflection is part of the natural rhythm of the day. Pupils are open and comfortable in their use of prayer. These quiet moments are highly valued, for instance, when reflecting on those in need. Pupils explain with confidence the concept of the Holy Trinity, as three in one. Pupils frequently lead worship and enjoy this opportunity.

RE reflects the vision by taking pupils on an exciting journey of discovery. Leaders ensure the RE curriculum provides memorable rich learning opportunities. These are highly effective in motivating pupils as they explore Christianity, world faiths and worldviews. As a result, pupils of all abilities display impressive levels of subject knowledge. Leaders have involved visits to places of worship and receiving specific faith visitors. However, the school has previously identified this aspect as an area for development, to ensure that it occurs more frequently. The subject provides many opportunities that enrich pupils' understanding, such as studying the historical timeline of the Christian faith. Pupils are secure in the knowledge that RE provides a safe place to explore big questions. Staff prioritise meaningful discussions that enable pupils to delve deeply into complex themes. As a result, this produces high quality debate and thoughtfully considered responses.

Information			
School	Harvington Church of England First School	Inspection date	14 February 2023
URN	116819	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Worcester	Pupils on roll	174
Acting Headteacher	Becky Enstone		
Chair of Governors	Chris Davies		
Inspector	David Scorer	No.	841