

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Measham Church of England Primary School Academy	
Address	Bosworth Road, Measham, Swadlincote, DE12 7LG
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>To be a school where happy children flourish.</p> <p>'Love your neighbour as yourself' (Mark 12:31).</p> <p>Our Christian ethos underpins everything we do.</p> <p>Children develop a love of life and learning in a caring, nurturing Christian community.</p> <p>Our school is committed to providing a safe, stimulating and inclusive environment; everyone is valued equally and encouraged to develop to their full potential.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measham is a school overwhelmingly living out its Christian vision which greatly impacts the whole community. • Exceptionally strong provision and early recognition of issues relating to wellbeing and welfare ensures all are lovingly cared for and treated with dignity and respect. • A rich awareness of spirituality enhances prayer experiences. However, planned opportunities for spiritual development within the new curriculum are only partially embedded. • Pupils demonstrate a great sense of understanding and involvement in local community projects but are yet to challenge wider global issues. • Collective worship is highly valued and contributes to the deep expression of Christian love at Measham. Opportunities for pupils to be involved in planning and leading worship are yet to be fully reinstated following the pandemic.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consolidate a schoolwide understanding of spirituality to ensure a deeper awareness of spiritual development within curriculum planning. • To develop opportunities for pupils to be courageous advocates for change beyond their own locality. • To enhance the leadership role of pupils through the development of creative collective worship spaces.

Inspection findings

'Loving your neighbour as yourself' is intrinsic and fundamental to the school community at Measham. There is an overwhelming sense of Christian love which enables everyone to be happy and flourish. This is a school where, no matter how difficult a situation, all are valued as individuals created in the image of God. The Christian narrative of the vision clearly reflects how the school meets the needs of pupils and their families. This response has been life changing for many of the community. Leaders and staff go far beyond expectations to nurture and support those in their care. Pupils readily articulate the biblical basis to their Christian values and their significance to how they live their lives.

Leaders and governors regularly consider the vision to ensure it is relevant and prominent in policies and plans. They are very conscious of partnering with organisations with a complementary Christian vision as they consider the future direction of the school. The Christian distinctiveness committee meets regularly to ensure that Measham's Christian foundation remains central and pertinent to their role as leaders. Regular monitoring enhances awareness and feeds into development plans. The acting headteacher leads by example and everyone speaks of her approachability and embodiment of living out the school's vision.

High quality, nurturing support contributes to a learning environment where awareness of emotions and outside influences are readily addressed. Consequently, pupils are confident and ready to learn in an atmosphere which is all accepting. Wellbeing is recognised as the key element to enabling pupils to fully access their learning at Measham. The new curriculum has been carefully planned. Each topic or learning task leads with a 'big question.' Whilst there is an ongoing awareness, planned opportunities for spiritual development in the curriculum are only partially embedded. Pupils are flourishing because of learning provision which meets individual requirements. Vulnerable pupils, including those with learning needs, are making progress. This is because staff are relentless in ensuring they have valuable and necessary support. Such wholehearted commitment is a deep expression of the Christian vision in action.

Pupils are given the ability to be resilient and persevere when situations are tough, enabling them to learn and make positive choices. They are given hope and aspiration to be the best they can be. Watching over one another in love is strikingly normal as spare clothing and uniform is shared with those who need it most. Close relationships with local supermarkets enable a 'community fridge' and food bank facilitated by school staff. Pupils have a very clear understanding and powerful empathy for disadvantage and deprivation in their local area. Being part of this community changes lives and consequently equips the school family to be agents of change themselves. Pupils are yet to challenge wider global issues.

Pupils entering the school, step into an atmosphere of calm where relationships are positive and supportive. As a result, they are empowered to flourish. Behaviour is exemplary. Any issues are addressed with a deep sense of understanding of circumstance and forgiveness. Parents describe how Christian love and caring support positively impacts life at home. Pupils acknowledge that everyone has different viewpoints. Instances of bullying are very rare as a result of early intervention because staff know their pupils so well. Leaders have made bold financial decisions to access necessary expertise rather than wait for referral timescales. Such actions ensure that everyone is confident that the school is addressing needs quickly to alleviate additional problems. Issues related to mental health and wellbeing are prioritised and this is highly valued by the school family.

Pupils learn in an atmosphere which treats them with dignity and respect. Consequently, they

develop confidence to believe they have the ability to achieve their best. Pupils are happy and flourish because they are loved and valued as God's children. The contribution made by the teaching of religious education (RE) positively influences knowledge and understanding of faith communities. Pupils articulate how it is good to be different and respect faith and belief. RE is well led and taught across the school by an experienced coordinator. As a result, there is very good progression which builds on prior knowledge. Financial constraints have currently affected trips to places of worship. Creative provision has enabled pupils to encounter life-like experiences in school. For example, pupils remove their shoes at the classroom door and have an immersive experience of visiting a mosque. A recent multi-faith roadshow in school has had a great impact on the community further enhancing opportunities for critical reflection.

There is a great feeling of stillness and reverence as the school community enter collective worship. Pupils help to organise delivery of this special time. Worship is planned around the school's Christian values focusing on a different Bible story each week. The sense of familiarity with the pattern of worship reflects a community which greatly appreciates the opportunity to focus on God's love to them. Adaptions are made to allow pupils with needs to access collective worship without feelings of anxiety. The relevance of faith is considered more widely through regular exploration of worldwide events. Everyone sings with exuberance and rejoicing complemented by times of quiet reflection. Prayer is invitational and a natural and valued part of the culture at Measham. Pupils are eager to lead spontaneous prayer which is mature and deeply resonates the value of thankfulness. The formal role of pupils leading worship has yet to be re-instated since the whole school started meeting together again. Every classroom has a reflection area although outside spaces for quiet prayer and contemplation are limited. The school is supported by a variety of different church traditions within the locality. This enables pupils and families to experience a living and meaningful Christian faith in action. Foundation governors ensure that close links with St. Laurence's Church are maintained and parents value attending church services.

The extremely strong sense of community at Measham fostered by a Christian love for each other enables everyone to be happy and flourish. They are lovingly equipped to live the fullness of life that God intends.

Information			
School	Measham Church of England Primary School Academy	Inspection date	26 April 2023
URN	139097	VC/VA/ Academy	Academy
Diocese/District	Leicester	Pupils on roll	203
MAT/Federation	Stand Alone Academy		
Acting Headteacher	Hannah Carter		
Chair of Governors	Matthew Pope		
Inspector	Joy Hardy	No.	944