

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Anne's Church of England Primary School, Oldland Common	
Address	School Road, Oldland Common, Bristol, BS30 6PH
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
Through our authentic Christian character, our vision at St Anne's C of E Primary School is to ensure that every pupil and member of the school family is nurtured and develops in all aspects through our Christian values, enabling them to reach their full potential in all aspects of life.
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The headteacher provides inspirational and supportive Christian leadership in a school where pupils thrive. He works effectively with staff and the school community to ensure the school vision and values influence curriculum and community decisions. The biblical underpinning of the vision has yet to be fully embedded. • Governance is committed and very supportive but lacks a systematic approach to monitoring and evaluation for encouraging and deepening the school's Christian vision. • Dignity and respect are afforded to every member of this fully inclusive Church school. Pupils grow in compassion and are inspired to challenge injustice at a local, national and global level. • Collective worship is well planned and delivered. Pupils enjoy worship and take active roles, however there are less opportunities for younger year groups to plan and lead worship. • The effective leadership of religious education (RE) has encouraged pupils who enjoy learning and are knowledgeable about Christianity, a range of religions and world faiths, enabling them to flourish in today's society.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepen the understanding of the biblical underpinning of the vision to ensure that it is fully embedded in context and theological understanding to more effectively drive the school's Christian character. • Provide a more systematic approach to monitoring and evaluation in order to improve forward planning for the Christian vision. • Enrich pupils' active experience of planning and leading worship by enabling all year groups to be more involved in its development.

Inspection findings

A feeling of warmth and welcome is immediate when entering St Anne's. The headteacher creates an atmosphere in which pupils and staff know they are loved and cared for. The school's vision and values of respect, responsibility, friendship and excellence, are evident in all areas of the school through displays and signs. Pupils say the values, displayed on their uniform, helps them behave at school and at home. Governors, staff and parents confidently explain that the embedded values are at the heart of the school. The biblical underpinning of the vision is less secure. Links with the local church and diocese lead to increased opportunities for staff to grow through training opportunities. Pupils also benefit with projects such as teaspoon prayers when pupils learn to use the terms sorry, thank you and please within reflection times. Governors are fully involved in school life and support staff and pupils well leading to a well-resourced school where all flourish. The approach to monitoring the impact of the vision is less developed.

St Anne's remodelled enquiry-based curriculum reflects the school's vision, values, and context. It makes a good impact on pupil's learning. Topics start with 'big questions' which spark pupils to ask their own questions. Learning therefore reflects curiosity and is tailored to unique needs. Staff explain how their curriculum, now driven by the vision, enables pupils of all abilities to reach their full potential. Vulnerable pupils and those with special educational needs are well cared for through bespoke programmes. This targeted support leads to flourishing by all. Extended curriculum opportunities such as forest school, visits to SS Great Britain and the Old Vic theatre support a range of interests. Confidence is also built through the challenge of exploring new situations and discovering new ways for pupils to express themselves.

Staff make a tangible difference to the lives of pupils and this is at the heart of St Anne's. Leaders understand the importance of nurturing all. They delivered food parcels and birthday cards when school was closed to support families. Organising events such as an autism awareness and acceptance week makes all feel included and loved. The school's spiritual garden is used by pupils and staff as a sanctuary, a place where they can be still, find peace and reflect. Class reflection spaces, as well as the garden, are well maintained by pupils to provide beautiful places to pray or think. Opportunities to grow spiritually are a natural part of daily life, whether within the grounds or planned into lessons. Therefore, pupils are confident in their own identity and their place in the wider world.

The school's vision is central to the character development of the pupils. Subjects focus on developing oracy which increases pupil's confidence in debate and expressing views. Pupils challenge inequality locally and further afield, such as writing letters to request support for war-torn countries. School councillors choose charities and plan events for the year. Social action is at the heart of pupil decisions such as supporting Jessie May Hospice, Guide Dogs UK or celebrating Odd Socks Day. Pupils have a strong voice at St Anne's and staff celebrate all achievements. The Golden Star is proudly hung in the hall. It displays children's names who have carried out extraordinary acts of community service. The Kindness Cup, which is given out termly, also shows how pupils live out the vision.

Leadership and stewardship roles given to pupils promote living well together. Playground leaders organise games and model good behaviour to foster friendships. Responsible eco-club members care for the school by litter picking or monitoring waste and energy use. Planting a tree in the community and encouraging diversity in garden areas shows pupils' care for God's world. Delivering Christmas cards to local shopkeepers demonstrates pupils' thoughtfulness for others. These activities lead to strong community relationships. The vision nurtures good behaviour and disagreements are rare, but quickly resolved due to a culture

of forgiveness. Positive mental health is a strength of the school and is valued by all. Special weeks promote looking after yourself, which complement personal health and wellbeing lessons. Consequently, children are happy at school and staff morale is high.

The school actively explores diversity in lessons and worship. The use of Desmond Tutu's book of Bible stories and varied music in worship helps pupils to discover a range of artists. This results in pupils valuing varied cultures and learning that everyone can make a difference. Effective teaching on the themes of sexuality and gender through a sensitive programme of lessons based in a Christian context, promotes respect. Due to the vision focus on responsibility and friendship, incidents of bullying or prejudicial language are rare. Pupils leave St Anne's well prepared for living in a diverse world.

Thoughtful collective worship planning ensures it reflects the vision allowing pupils to make connections with their own lives. For example, the story of the prodigal son teaches them about forgiveness. There is a buzz of excitement when resources are used to good effect to stimulate curiosity. Older pupils support worship regularly and the worship council help to plan, lead and evaluate assemblies to maintain their inclusive and invitational nature. Younger children wish to be more involved in leading and planning worship across the school. Local clergy take an active role in worship and this strong relationship enhances the pupils' knowledge of Anglican traditions and God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Pupil involvement in key festivals, celebrated at church, enable an understanding of the Christian calendar. Parents value these special times when the community comes together.

Religious education is led enthusiastically and effectively. Inspired by the vision, the subject leader has developed a contextual curriculum based on the locally agreed syllabus, enhanced by stimulating resources. Pupils relish RE lessons as they are creative and use a range of teaching approaches to spark interest. Visiting places of worship or using props to enact Bible stories for younger children encourages pupil questioning. All opinions are respected in lessons. Consequently, pupils develop a sensitive and deep understanding of Christianity, non-religious views, and diverse faith communities. The leader monitors RE effectiveness well and offers practical encouragement to staff. Teachers know what and how well pupils learn in RE. The vision of enabling all pupils to reach their full potential has led to the school being recognised in its 'Widening Inclusion in Religious Education' award.

The Christian vision is central to all activities at St Anne's. Pupils and adults care and are cared for by a loving community dedicated to providing the best environment to nurture and grow.

Information			
School	St Anne's Church of England Primary School, Oldland Common	Inspection date	3 May 2023
URN	109159	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Bristol	Pupils on roll	385
Headteacher	Sean Quinn		
Chair of Governors	Helene Cook		
Inspector	Carol Dougill	No.	2116