

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>Bishop John Robinson Church of England Primary School</b>	
Address	Hoveton Road, Thamesmead, SE28 8LW
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
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Excellent

School's vision
<p>Be the best they can; Join in learning, Play and Prayer, Remember God's word.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intentional, vision driven decisions by school leaders result in transformational lifelong impact on the lives of all. Some governor led discussions do not provide a sufficient depth of challenge.</li> <li>• Pupils are exceptional. The deep respect they have for one another influences how, with maturity and humility, they respond actively to situations of injustice.</li> <li>• Aspirational learning opportunities and experiences weave through the curriculum, reflecting the diverse heritage and culture of the community. Spirituality is an intrinsic part of daily life. However, not everyone is able to articulate it clearly.</li> <li>• Collective worship has a profound impact on the lives of all. Stories of everyday and biblical heroes inspire pupils to look outward and consider all that could be possible. Prayer ripples through the school day, bringing comfort and hope to all.</li> <li>• In religious education (RE), pupils make exceptional progress. They are challenged to make connections between religions and worldviews through thought provoking questions and engaging tasks.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further develop a shared articulation of spiritual development. This will deepen the celebration and reflection of the spiritually rich opportunities within school life.</li> <li>• Governors to sustain a level of challenge that brings robustness and depth to meetings. This will further strengthen the centrality of the Christian vision in all policies and decisions.</li> </ul>



## Inspection findings

Bishop John Robinson Church of England primary school wholeheartedly embodies its distinctive Christian vision. It acts as a beacon of safety and joy in its community. School leaders ensure that through their practical input, calmness is brought into lives, bringing positive change and hope. All passionately articulate what the distinctive Christian vision means to them personally. For many, the profound impact of knowing that Jesus acts as an anchor through the storms of life brings them peace and hope.

School development plans and policies are shaped by the Christian vision. Governors, guided by leaders, ensure that every decision comes back to, 'how will this enable the pupils and staff to be the best they can be?' Governors play an active and supportive role and are a visible, regular presence in school. However, not all governor discussions provide enough challenge to leaders on future plans and actions.

School leaders create a culture which is built on genuine love and compassion for all. The desire to ensure every pupil is known and included brings long-lasting transformational change to the lives of the pupils and their families. As an expression of the Christian vision, school staff go above and beyond to serve the pupils and families of the school. As a result of practical support, families trust the school and remain part of the community even after they have moved away, or their children have left.

Leaders are motivated by the desire that every member of the community is empowered to be the best they can be. This goal manifests itself in the way the excellent curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities are designed and policies are formulated. All are included at Bishop John Robinson. Individualised provision and supports are put in place to enable every pupil to be fully embraced within the classroom. School leaders use robust systems to monitor teaching and learning and the progress of pupils. This ensures there is equity in the learning experience and pupils needs are met. As a result, all pupils, especially the most vulnerable, thrive and make excellent progress from their unique starting point.

The curriculum reflects the rich cultural heritage of the community and does not shy away from challenging questions or topics. Pupils are encouraged to be curious by 'joining in' to open their eyes to the world in which they live. Every opportunity is taken to broaden vocabulary, knowledge and understanding in every subject and moment in school. The importance of play and creativity is evident around the school. Pupils clearly enjoy their learning. A pupil said, 'My teachers make the learning interesting and this makes me more curious about the world and its people.'

Spirituality is fully embraced and encountered on a regular basis through experiences both planned and spontaneous. However, some moments of spirituality are not fully celebrated or reflected upon. This is because not all can fully articulate what spirituality looks like at Bishop John Robinson.

Staff recognise that they also need to be the best they can be for the pupils in their care. As a result, professional development and further academic studies are encouraged to allow all staff to grow and widen their understanding. Staff act as positive role models by joining in with learning and play. They inhabit the values of the school in the way they treat one another, the pupils and their families.

The theme of justice flows through the curriculum. Pupils, inspired by biblical teachings, are empowered to stand up for situations of injustice and be the voice for those who do not have one. They shared their pride at celebrating 'Black History 365' and how they have engaged with International Justice Mission to campaign against modern day slavery on Lake Volta.



Discovering that young children are caught up in the slave trade fuelled their passion to bring change through their voice and actions. One pupil said, 'I used to waste food, but when I learned that these young children were not fed at all, I stopped wasting food. I am so fortunate to have all I have.'


Pupils at Bishop John Robinson are exceptional. Their excellent behaviour and deep respect for one another is guided by their biblically inspired moral compass. The 'My Happy Mind' programme has engaged pupils in conversations about behaviour and an understanding of emotions. Consequently, pupils constantly look out for one another and seek to regulate the emotions of their peers using the tools learnt in the programme.

Collective worship has a profound impact on the school community. Through invitational acts of worship, all meet real life and biblical heroes. These heroes inspire them with their stories of faith and the impact God has on their lives. For the pupils, meeting people who are like them is life changing. Worship is a joyful time of celebration and thanksgiving. Pupils have an incredible knowledge of the Bible, context of passages and characters. This enables them to build ever strengthening connections within the Bible narrative and remember God's word in their lives. The 'Leading Lights' act as ambassadors for collective worship through their leadership and enthusiasm. The group joyfully described how being a 'Leading Light' has helped them grow in confidence by taking responsibility for aspects of whole school and class worship. Prayer is a foundational part of school life. It frames each part of the school day and is highly valued by all. Pupils actively engage with creative prayer spaces around the school. An inclusive model of prayer has been embedded that promotes a personal and deep response to God.

Religious education is led and taught effectively. The headteacher has created an RE curriculum that is well sequenced, a balance of disciplines and develops RE specific skills. Teachers are supported through team teaching and training. This equips them to plan and teach engaging and challenging lessons. Lessons encourage high-level discussion and questioning that promotes respect and understanding of believers. Pupils share their passion for RE lessons. They describe how lessons encourage them to think deeply and often provide creative opportunities to express their learning or personal reflections.

Bishop John Robinson is a sacred oasis in its community. Those who journey through the school are forever changed and never forgotten. The relentless compassion, intentional provision and inclusive actions of school leaders act as anchor bringing hope and stability to all.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent
	<p>School leaders have innovated the Diocesan syllabus framework to incorporate opportunities for pupils to make links with religions previously and currently studied. Due to these adaptations and expert teaching, their articulation of and connectivity between different worldviews is exceptional. There is a robust systems in place to monitor teaching and assess pupil progress. Information gleaned is used effectively to inform planning and improve provision further. As a result, all pupils make excellent progress in their RE learning.</p>		
Information			
School	Bishop John Robinson Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	18 May 2023
URN	100181	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided
Diocese/District	Southwark	Pupils on roll	218
Headteacher	Matthew Harris		
Chair of Governors	Patrick Eggleston		
Inspector	Rebecca Swansbury	No.	970