

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Euxton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School	
Address	Wigan Road, Euxton, PR7 6JW
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>'In our Christian family, we all SHINE in the light of Jesus.'</p> <p>Strong Christian ethos, built upon Christian values. Happy memories - a fun, loving and caring place. Inspirational teaching and learning; high expectations. Nurturing, safe environment - all valued and success celebrated. Everyone working as a team; all proud to belong. 'Let your light shine' Matthew 5:16</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision inspires and unites every aspect of this excellent Church school. Pupils and adults flourish and 'shine' exceptionally well. The vision is deeply embedded and highly effective in securing the schools Christian distinctiveness. • The partnership between the school and church community is a joy to witness. Regular, incisive input from clergy and church members supports the exceptional spiritual development of all. As a result, pupils and staff plan, lead and evaluate thought provoking and high-quality transformational worship. • The vision leads to the school meeting the needs of all its pupils in a highly inclusive way, using a cleverly crafted curriculum. All know they are loved and valued as unique. Leaders strategically target resources to meet the needs of pupils, enabling all to flourish, succeed and shine. • The Christian vision empowers children and staff to be bold and make a difference. Pupils passionately challenge all forms of injustice and instigate social action with determination. Their compassionate response to communities in need is quite extraordinary. • Religious education (RE) is excellent. Highly effective subject leadership drives an inspiring curriculum. Pupils' work, depth of discussion and reflection are of a remarkably high standard with an embedded culture of curiosity and questioning.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the deeply embedded Christian vision continues to be the inspiration and guide for all leaders' actions as the school community grows. This is to secure the ongoing flourishing of pupils and adults.

Inspection findings

The Christian vision at Euxton is fundamental to the lives of pupils and adults. All ages flourish and shine as cherished children of God. Euxton is a school that is bursting with love, fun and joy. Leaders greet pupils every morning and ask them which Christian value they are going to show that day. The Christian concept of living and learning to shine flows throughout the school. What makes the school an excellent Church school is the exceptional quality of the relationships across all ages. The vision one parent said 'lifts hearts and minds and makes you feel you do shine for God'. Pupils joining the school are fully welcomed. Pupils are transformed by this culture of total inclusivity. They explain how the values help them to be who they are and of how the vision comes from Christian teaching. Pupils enjoy reading the Bible and tell of their favourite stories. Pupils explain how both the Old and New Testaments provide them with examples to live by.

The vision pervades every corner of the school environment. Bold, visual expressions of the vision mean all who enter are intrinsically drawn in and included. There is a sense of joy, family and high aspirations for all. Governors monitor the school's effectiveness as a Church school as part of the robust self-evaluation system that is in place. The headteacher drives and challenges everyone, describing pupils as 'lights ready to shine in Jesus.' Parents appreciate the compassion and dedication of staff in meeting the needs of pupils. They say the vision shines through. Parents speak with gratitude about the welcome, compassion and support shown to pupils with additional needs. A pupil with complex needs tells his family that 'My teacher says Jesus loves me.' They say pupils look inside themselves and take a reflective approach to solving problems. Euxton is an environment where everyone is listened to and feels valued. Parents see the school as a beacon of hope, shining for the community. Links with the community are highly valued and demonstrate the extended family that is lovingly nurtured. An example of this is past staff present Bibles to the Year 6 leavers.

Academic and spiritual flourishing are highly valued. The sense of family is seen in the open and trusting relationships that families and the school share. Staff ensure that strong partnerships support families exceptionally well. The Christian vision's theological roots inspire staff in their teaching. This allows pupils to lead philosophical debates and have a strong awareness of a range of beliefs. The vision has a clear impact on their spirituality. Staff say, 'I feel closer to God here than I have ever done.' Staff at all levels feel valued and able to utilise their particular skills.

Good mental health of pupils and staff is a high priority and sets the scene for calm, productive learning. Pupils have daily meditation and use music, yoga and art as calming tools. Staff describe the school family as a 'protective bubble' in difficult times.

The Christian vision impacts greatly on mutually beneficial partnerships. The church's close involvement in the school day means they live out the vision alongside the school. The local vicar and curate support wellbeing as well as the worshipping life of the school. They play a key role in the transformational collective worship that reflects the varied liturgical, and other, traditions of Anglican worship. Pupils are part of the church congregation when celebrating the Eucharist. A pupil said 'after agape collective worship I now understand the Eucharist completely'. This is described as a 'highlight' for parishioners. They say they are deeply moved by pupils' prayers for peace.

Excellent collective worship has a powerful impact. The school community is drawn to reflect on the essential and inherent meaning and mystery of life. Worship is cherished by pupils and staff. It is at the heart of school life. Worship is overwhelmingly invitational, inclusive and inspirational. Pupils deeply value the time for prayer and reflection. They clearly illustrate




how learning and spiritual growth in worship enables them to flourish and live fruitful lives. The transformational impact of worship is seen throughout the school. It is a source of guidance and strength for all. Staff shared many examples of the positive impact of worship on individuals' lives, including enriching them as adults. A pupil explained that 'daily worship connects us to each other and to God like shining stars.' The ethos group share that it is a privilege to lead and serve during worship. The spiritual life of the school is carefully woven into times of worship. Prayers and welcome are signed by all the children making it inclusive for all.

The biblical roots of the vision are ingrained in pupils. They speak about 'shining.' The holistic mix of the vision and values across school life, greatly impacts on pupils' character development. They have a strong awareness of local, national and global issues. They feel empowered to instigate social action. They have supported a nursery with a welly shortage and have sent cleaning resources to the charity Inside Out who support those in need. Further from home the school council has forged links with the Mikoroshoni School in Kenya. Fundraising has bought a football strip for the school. Monies raised from not sending Christmas cards in classes bought juice and biscuits for the school. Cards sent to care home residents are gratefully received. It is clear that the school is the beating heart of the community. Those who feel loved as 'children of God' are far greater in number than the number of pupils on roll.

Skilful class teachers create a sense of awe and wonder in RE because teaching is inspirational. As a result, pupils enjoy learning. Pupils often choose their own way of expressing their understanding of what they have learned. Pupils are curious, discuss issues and explore connections to their lives, ethical issues and world events. As a result, they articulate an impressive knowledge of faiths and worldviews. Pupils engage deeply with the mysteries of life and develop sincere respect and understanding for all people. Regular visits to places of worship bring learning about faith alive. They reinforce the school's commitment to preparing pupils for life in a diverse society.

Euxton Church of England Primary School is a place of peace, enduring kindness and instinctive acceptance of all. The lives of those who attend and are connected to the school are richer and transformed because of the time spent learning and living together.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent
	<p>Pupils find RE interesting and challenging. High expectations, rigorous monitoring of the effectiveness of RE lead to rapid progression of skills and knowledge. Pupils are exceptionally proud of their RE work and know what they need to do to improve and make excellent progress. They use religious terms accurately and with confidence. Teaching and learning in RE is excellent. The curriculum is rich, engaging and promotes deep thinking and reflection.</p>		
Information			
School	Euxton Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School	Inspection date	14 June 2023
URN	119473	VC/VA/ Academy	
Diocese/District	Blackburn	Pupils on roll	211
Headteacher	Nick Ward		
Chair of Governors	Ian Ball		
Inspector	Elaine Bowers	No.	960