

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

Huntley Church of England Primary School	
Address	Ross Road, Huntley, GL19 3EX
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
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Good

School's vision
Nurtured individuals, learning together with God's love to love life to the full.  'I can do all things through him who strengthens me.' (Philippians 4: 13)
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A distinctive vision, underpinned with a clear biblical narrative, is driving strategic direction within the school. This is because strong leaders, including governors, live the vision out in all that they do.</li> <li>• Pupils and adults are well supported and nurtured. Staff and pupils feel part of a family and are highly motivated and valued. This is because wellbeing and spiritual development are seen as a priority.</li> <li>• Relationships with the local church have a positive impact on the nurturing of all. The partnership is valued and supports pupils and adults in living life to the full.</li> <li>• Collective worship supports the flourishing of pupils and adults. It enables them to reflect on their behaviour and have an encounter with God. However, pupils do not have the opportunity to fully monitor its impact.</li> <li>• Religious education (RE) has a high priority in the school. As such, pupils feel safe to share their knowledge and understanding. However, activities do not give pupils the opportunity to develop a deep knowledge of religion and worldviews.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend the opportunities for pupils to be involved in planning, leading and monitoring collective worship so they can suggest improvements and thus deepen their understanding of worship.</li> <li>• Embed opportunities for pupils to develop a deep understanding of the impact of religious and non-religious worldviews.</li> </ul>



## Inspection findings

Nurture is at the heart of this lovely school. Huntley CE Primary school is a place where everyone finds a home and are welcomed into the family. The distinctively Christian vision, underpinned by 'I can do all things through him who strengthens me' (Philippians 4:13), is understood and articulated by all stakeholders. The vision and its theological basis are firmly rooted in the school's understanding of its context. As a result, it has a clear impact on the decisions that are made within the school.

The motivated and effective governing body are passionate about the school's vision. It is constantly in the forefront of governors' minds. They articulate the vision well and make decisions in light of it. For example, funding additional staffing for a class so that pupils and teachers can be nurtured to be the best they can be. Governors talk with practical illustration about how the vision impacts the work that they do. They have a deep understanding of the impact that it has on pupils and adults alike. Self-evaluation is accurate and supports school improvement. This is because leaders, including governors, monitor the vision effectively and are relentless in ensuring the vision drives the direction of the school.

Positive mental health and wellbeing are a real strength in the school. They have a high priority and play an integral part in the overall flourishing of each person. At this school everyone belongs. This is because there is a fundamental belief that flourishing encompasses every aspect of people's lives. Staff talk passionately about how they are valued, nurtured and cared for. Staff thrive in this school. This is because time has been taken by leaders to get to know and understand staff and their interests. This ensures that professional development is tailored to suit each member of the team. The bespoke and nurturing approach to staff impacts on pupils. This is because leaders fundamentally believe that pupils will thrive if staff are also happy and fulfilled.

Leaders have implemented an ambitious curriculum which is underpinned by the distinctively Christian vision. Pupils, including those with special educational needs (SEND), make progress because the curriculum is tailored to their needs. Courageous decisions around organisation has ensured that pupils are ready for the next stages in learning. This is exemplified in the decisions taken by subject leaders on the organisation of their subject. Pupils learn together through God's love as staff are committed to ensuring each pupil strives for the best possible outcomes. Furthermore, all pupils take part in music tuition and all pupils participate in sports teams. This is because extra curricula activities are also rooted in the vision.

Pupils behave well. They are polite and respectful and seek to support and nurture each other through love. Diversity is celebrated enabling pupils and adults to treat each other with dignity and respect. Topics and books are chosen carefully to ensure that pupils have a good understanding of and appreciation for diversity. Visitors to collective worship also support the understanding of diversity.

Spiritual development is a key aspect of school life. Spirituality is understood as the 'Ows, Wows and Nows' of life. Through the curriculum pupils engage with probing questions which help them to grow and flourish. Topics such as 'The Holocaust' and 'Slavery' enable pupils to think and reflect on big themes. Through these reflections pupils have the opportunity to connect with God and themselves.

Collective worship is an integral aspect of the school day and is valued by all. The invitational nature is extended to staff who see collective worship as an opportunity to grow. Pupils are



enthusiastic about collective worship and join in respectfully. They see collective worship as a time when they can all come together to learn. During worship they engage with Bible stories and understand how these have an impact on their lives. This in turn leads pupils to reflecting on their values and how they can make a difference. Pupils participate in acts of worship both in school and in church. They write prayers which show a deep level of understanding and insight. However, they do not have the opportunity to fully monitor the impact of collective worship in school.


Pupils talk confidently about how the messages in collective worship have inspired them to change. One pupil described how it enabled her to be more courageous when riding rollercoasters. Reflection on biblical messages is supporting pupils to think about the wider world. Pupils set up an eco-committee in school in order to look after the local environment. They also live their vision through raising money for the Turkey Earthquake Appeal and for Ukraine.

Strong links with members of the local church support pupils and adults to 'live life in all its fullness'. The church are an integral part of the school and vice versa. A reflective area, set up at the back of the church, is used by the pupils. This provides them with a space to sit and reflect and have a moment of solitude within a busy day. The church and school work together closely on services throughout the year.

Pupils enjoy RE lessons and speak with passion about it. The school uses the locally agreed syllabus and supplement this with 'Understanding Christianity'. The school has good links with the local diocese and the leader for RE makes good use of the training and support offered. A variety of well-planned visits and visitors enhance the learning experience for pupils. Lessons provide a safe space for pupils to share their ideas openly and respect the views of one another. Assessment shows what pupils know and this is used to support future teaching. However, pupils do not have deep knowledge of key concepts within religion and worldviews.

Pupils, staff and parents alike refer to Huntley CE Primary School as a caring and nurturing family. It is a place where everyone is able to 'bring their own self' and everyone is celebrated. This is because the vision central to everything at this school.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Good	
	<p>The RE curriculum enables pupils to develop an understanding of different religions. Lessons provide all pupils with the opportunity to explore religious and non-religious concepts. They engage well with learning and pupils, including those with SEND, make good progress. This is because through discussion pupils are nurtured to be the best they can be. However, activities do not fully give pupils the opportunities to understand the impact religious and non-religious views have on believers.</p>			
Information				
School	Huntley Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	19 May 2023	
URN	115686	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	
Diocese/District	Gloucester	Pupils on roll	91	
Headteacher	Ella Curtis			
Chair of Governors	Fiona Gordon			
Inspector	Duncan Hutchison	No.	2119	