

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Clement's and St John's Church of England Infant School	
Address	Saint Clement's Road, Bournemouth, BH1 4DZ
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>To love learning, to love ourselves, and to love one another. (John 15:12)</p> <p>'I know the plans I have for you,' says the Lord, '...plans to give you hope and a future.'</p> <p>Jeremiah 29:11</p> <p>Our four values are: Confidence, Compassion, Creativity and Curiosity.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision has enabled a profound culture of love to be developed and embedded. It is led by all staff and transforms the life opportunities of children and adults across the school community. • Pupils flourish because of a vision-shaped curriculum and the support of compassionate and skilled staff. There is a confident culture of spiritual reflection. Spiritual growth is implicit within the curriculum and less explicitly planned. • Collective worship is a clear expression of the school vision and values. It engages and inspires pupils who are well equipped to act on their learning to be agents of change. • The broad and rich religious education curriculum, inclusive teaching and innovative strategies enable pupils to progress well. • As a result of the well-established loving culture the school generously and meaningfully serves the community bringing transformation and life-giving opportunity.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise staff confidence and expertise to plan for spiritual development more explicitly across the curriculum to further enhance the spiritual growth of all ages of pupils and staff.



Inspection findings

Driven by a deeply Christian vision and desire to serve, St Clement's and St John's is a beacon of life and light for the school community. It is a school where adults and children are enabled to flourish because of the work undertaken by school leaders to embed a profound culture of love. The vision 'to love learning, to love ourselves, and to love one another' is rooted in a Christian narrative, impressively articulated by leaders and reflects the local context. Parents, school partners and staff all recognise how the embedded culture of love, inspires actions that transform the life opportunities of those in the school and wider communities.

The teaching of Jesus expressed in the school vision inspires the school leadership team and governing board. Leaders have designed a school curriculum that reflects the vision theology and embeds the school's Christian values. The compassion, energy and skill of staff ensure that curriculum provision is exceptional. It overcomes the seemingly insurmountable obstacles that the school staff and pupils face. There is an extraordinary vision-led determination to embrace all in love and to be fully inclusive. Dignity and respect are fully lived out across a school community where over thirty languages are spoken. Pupils learn well and flourish. Staff enable this by ensuring pupils receive the required learning support, curriculum opportunity and pastoral care.

Governors are robust in their duties and ensure that there is an ongoing process in place that evaluates the effectiveness of the school as a church school. The school vision is knowledgeably used by governors, it directs their work and is used to bring challenge to leaders. The vision drives policy and practices. The strategy to support disadvantaged pupils is underpinned by the school values and overarching vision to love others. Governors articulate with ease and confidence examples where the school vision has had transformative impact. They recognise and describe how the pastoral team have gone beyond expectation to provide for families at the hardest of times.

At St Clement's and St John's the exceptionally high levels of staff expertise leads to innovative and impactful curriculum approaches. Beyond the curriculum, bespoke vision inspired pupil coaching and after-school provision has improved pupil wellbeing, aspiration and attendance. Staff are utilised within the Diocese and Trust and share their expertise and learning widely. Equally, staff proactively seek to develop their own knowledge and understanding through the well-established Trust and Diocesan partnerships. Staff articulate how they are encouraged to grow. They recognise and detail the meaningful culture of love and extended family where they flourish professionally, personally and spiritually. They identify benefiting from support in difficult times and describe how classroom reflections and collective worship has enabled their spiritual flourishing.

School leaders have embedded a well-used and widely shared understanding of spiritual development. Classroom environments promote and make space for spiritual reflection. Pupils describe how using these, being quiet and saying a prayer at any point during the day helps them. In addition, staff are confident at leading spontaneous reflective conversations. Spiritual growth is implicit throughout the curriculum and less explicitly planned.

Church partners are fully involved in the worship, spiritual and religious life of the school. Collective worship is unmistakably Christian and is a natural expression of the school vision and values. Reflecting the unique school context and diverse community, collective worship is fully inclusive and open to all. This results in strong parent engagement with the weekly 'Family Worship' led by school staff and hosted and supported by Love Church. Parents describe their enjoyment of 'Family Worship' and how this weekly meeting helps them to feel




loved. Pupils are active leaders, planners and evaluators. They enjoy collective worship, engage wholeheartedly and demonstrate great delight in singing. The school choir write and perform their own songs of praise and worship. Acts of collective worship are truly impactful and change the way pupils think and act. Spiritual reflection is integral to all collective worship and enables pupils time to learn and reflect on the themes and the Bible stories explored. Additionally, staff appreciate the importance of collective worship, actively participate and recognise its significance in supporting pupils and families to flourish.

School leaders are outward looking, service focused and passionate about giving pupils the opportunity to learn about global issues and grow into responsible citizens. Pupils are given a voice and opportunity to act against inequality and injustice. They do so with enthusiasm responding to local and global challenges. Links with charities, the reverse advent calendar and leading environmental actions identify pupils as active in raising awareness and fundraising. Close partnership working with the nearby junior school enables pupils to grow as community change makers. This is part of a long-term mission, with pupils who have left St Clement's and St John's returning to the school to inspire further social action.

All children have access to a rich and engaging RE curriculum. It is broad, thoughtfully structured and embraces the school context. The RE curriculum is well balanced and utilises an enquiry approach reflecting the school value of curiosity. This offers deep learning into a range of world religions, festivals and core concepts of Christianity. Pupils enjoy RE, talk positively about their learning and the difference it makes. Pupils readily understand how RE makes a difference in their understanding of a range of religions and worldviews.

Relationships at all levels are rooted in the school values and are a living out of the school vision 'to love learning, to love ourselves, and to love one another'. Behaviour is very good, pupils enjoy school and parents express how their children feel safe. The school has an extensive list of connections that have developed through positive relationships and a common desire to bring about change. 'School Streets' and 'Food and Fun' are projects grounded in love, enabled by partnerships and positively impact families.

The bold living out of the school's vision has created a fully intentional and completely normal loving culture. Staff and church partners work together to seek out ways to act in grace and mercy. These groups actively look for disadvantage and injustice on which they can bring transformation and improve life opportunities. The deep-rooted value of love at St Clement's and St John's is a vital part of the community. Being part of this school transforms lives and enables adults and pupils to flourish.

	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent
	<p>As a direct result of innovative leadership, high levels of staff expertise and notably confident teaching pupils flourish in their RE learning. Recognising the school context, staff work relentlessly to remove barriers to learning in RE. Art, drama and discussion are woven into RE lessons so that writing and limited English language are not barriers to learning. Pupils respond impressively, all pupils learn well, thriving in RE with many pupils exceeding what is expected for their age.</p>		
Information			
School	St Clement's and St John's Church of England Infant School	Inspection date	11 May 2023
URN	142102	VC/VA/Academy	Academy
Diocese/District	Portsmouth; Winchester	Pupils on roll	236
MAT/Federation	Coastal Partnership		
Headteacher	Andy Poole		
Chair of Governors	Debi Matthews		
Inspector	Stephen Cowdery	No.	2138