

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Meriadoc Church of England Nursery and Infant Academy	
Address	Cranfield Road, Camborne, TR14 7PN
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
<p>'Let your light shine.' Matthew 5:16</p> <p>The vision is known and understood by the whole school community and children and staff alike, can communicate this confidently. 'With God's love, our Christian values and our broad and aspirational curriculum we: Shine our light on ourselves; Shine our light on others; Shine our light on our community and the wider world'.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The vision inspires the school in its care for pupils and families, so all flourish. There is high-quality provision for meeting the needs of all pupils. The Christian vision shapes this warm caring community, where everyone is seen as being important. Pupils show a high degree of respect and dignity towards one another and collaborate and support each other well. Leaders are passionate about the vision which nurtures all at the school. The Rainbow Multi-Academy Trust provides support and grows new Church school leaders. Whilst monitoring strategies are in place, they do not evaluate all aspects of being a Church school. The enthusiasm of the religious education (RE) subject leader leads to new initiatives which raise its importance. Assessment strategies are in place, but being refined so teachers can take greater ownership of these. Collective worship plays a key role in developing pupils' understanding of the vision and what it looks like in daily life. However, planning does not enable Christian values to be progressively developed, extending and deepening their meaning for pupils.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure there is a systematic approach to monitoring and evaluating the impact which the Christian vision has on all aspects of being a Church school. This will lead to ongoing foci for improvements. Develop the planning for collective worship so that there is clear progression in themes which extend pupils' understanding of Christian values. This will deepen pupils' thinking, so they see the difference values make in a wider range of areas. Refine approaches to assessment in RE so that these can be effectively used by staff to enhance pupils' progress.



Inspection findings

A new vision, agreed following amalgamation with the junior school, provides continuity and gives clear focus for improvements. The vision effectively addresses the needs of the locality by raising pupils' aspirations. Leaders have a growing understanding of the biblical principles underpinning the vision. They see it as their role to grow talents and raise self-esteem. The vision decisively drives new initiatives. It shapes approaches to behaviour and relationships, weaving Christian values through daily life. Extensive provision, such as high quality work on speech and language, effectively meets pupils' diverse needs. A cohesive staff team work well together, learning from others' talents. They live out the vision so all can see the difference this makes. Monitoring by leaders is ongoing, they are aware of strengths and areas to develop. However, local governors' monitoring is less systematic and has not evaluated all aspects of being a Church school.

Enabling all to shine is fundamental to the vision. A range of high-quality approaches enable pupils to make good progress. The work on language development and identifying social and emotional needs is particularly strong. Pupils' and staff mental health and wellbeing has a high profile with regular reviews. The culture of high aspirations is an essential element. Pupils develop trusting relationships with staff, who use the language of being the best you can be. Staff identify strengths and celebrate these raising pupils' self-esteem. A parent correctly summarised this, 'staff find something amazing about every pupil'. Staff go beyond expectations in supporting parents. This is an outstanding feature of the school.

The vision inspires leaders to shape a curriculum which provides opportunities to shine and develop new talents. There is an emphasis on offering experiences, such as visits to cultural and historical sites. This extends their appreciation of the wider world. The provision for spirituality is well developed. Intentional experiences across all subject areas are identified in planning, offering a rich provision. Staff are confident to spontaneously take moments to inspire pupils when they naturally arise. Pupils use a structured approach which helps them to organise their thinking. Learners express thinking thoughtfully through role play and art. An explorers' club for the youngest pupils, deepens their understanding of awe and wonder. Pupils show a thoughtful appreciation of some of the rights of children, as outlined by United Nations Convention for children. Class 'rights ambassadors' promote their importance. This encourages pupils to champion local causes, such as foodbanks. A strong feature is pupils' awareness of the needs within the local community and supporting these. Pupils have a growing understanding of global communities, redeveloping links with a Kenyan school. They talk about similarities and differences and practically support their learning. Learners know that each person's beliefs are important, strengthening their thinking about diversity.

Pupils talk confidently about shining their light on others. This is reflected in the quality of relationships and behaviour. The language of Christian values is used across daily life. All treat one another with a high degree of dignity and respect. This is equally evident in the collaborative way pupils work together. There is a strong sense of being part of a family. Forgiveness and its Christian roots are seen as important. A creative approach using 'forgiveness feet' encourages reflection on how each person feels in the situation.


Shining your light is understood as showing what you do well. This informs the partnership with the Trust, who are influential in developing initiatives. Skilled advisers nurture improvements and contribute effectively to evaluations. The Trust lead on Church schools brings significant expertise which enhances new approaches in RE. Subject leaders are well supported with staff growing

leadership skills to become leaders of other Church schools. The diocese contributes well to ongoing training. The introduction of 'Understanding Christianity', an RE resource, has deepened staff and pupils' knowledge of Christianity.

Relations with the local church are strong, particularly with the close relationship with the family worker, who offers new valuable ideas. Creative experiences of the main Christian festivals extend pupils' understanding of the significance of these for Christians.

Pupils talk enthusiastically about RE. New approaches bring learning to life. Learners confidently explain about worldviews and how faith influences actions. Conversation stations encourage pupils to verbalise ideas, check misconceptions, leading to deeper thinking. Learners are increasingly aware of how to disagree well, listening to others' ideas. Pupils' knowledge of core religious concepts and Christianity as a living faith is steadily developing. Leaders effectively draw on ideas from Trust schools, leading to new initiatives. RE days provide in-depth exploration of festivals and their significance for believers. Assessment strategies are generally secure, but being refined to ensure these can more readily be used by staff and lead to moderation. The RE leader reviews pupils' progress with teachers. This leads to further interventions to support them.

Collective worship plays an influential role in enabling pupils to see the difference the Christian vision makes to daily life. It is inclusive, invitational and can be inspirational. Christian values are recognised as being important. However, older pupils are ready to explore these in greater depth and appreciate the difference they make in other areas. One pupil's response about collective worship is, 'it helps me to show how I can let my light shine for others'. A new initiatives encourages pupils to retell stories using resources. They are encouraged to pose their own 'I wonder' questions and seek answers, which extends their thinking. Some pupils spontaneously say prayers on the theme. Their role in worship is growing. Those who have a religious faith or none value time for prayer or reflection. Pupils have a growing appreciation of different traditions within worship. Planning is quite detailed, with guidance for each day. However, there is no clear understanding of how pupils will extend their understanding of Christian values. Pupils' have a good appreciation of the importance of Christian festivals. Some evaluations by pupils lead to new worship songs.

	The effectiveness of RE is		
	An engaging RE curriculum effectively nurtures very positive attitudes to learning. Themes are progressively built upon, extending pupils' understanding. Pupils generally make good progress from their starting points. The support for vulnerable pupils and those who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is enabling them to make better progress. The quality of teaching and learning is good and rising		
Information			
School	St Meriadoc CofE Nursery and Infant Academy	Inspection date	28 February 2023
URN	140782	VC/VA/Academy	Academy
Diocese/District	Truro	Pupils on roll	226
MAT/Federation	Rainbow Education MAT		
Headteacher	Sarah Wilkins		
Chair of Trust Board	Samantha Jones		
Inspector	David Hatrey	No.	844