

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Wigginton St Leonard's Church of England VA Primary School	
Address	Syerscote Lane, Wigginton, Tamworth, B79 9DX
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>Growing in Faith and Learning 'Add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge'</p> <p>2 Peter 1:3 Our vision is to be an outstanding church school, guided by God, where learning is irresistible, achievement is high and our pupils leave us as independent successful learners, happy, confident individuals and caring, responsible citizens, excited by challenge, change and possibility'. Life in all its fullness' John 10:10</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At St Leonard's, the shared Christian vision, and associated values, profoundly underpin the whole life and work of the school. Consequently, the school is highly inclusive, compassionate and caring so all are valued and nurtured as children of God. • Flowing from the Christian vision, the dedicated, collaborative work of the school team, including governors, unlocks potential and celebrates success. This enables pupils to flourish through their social, emotional and spiritual development. However, opportunities for reflection and spirituality are not as fully developed across the whole curriculum as they are in religious education (RE) and collective worship. • The school's Christian vision and values give pupils confidence to challenge injustice locally and globally. Pupils are listened to, take initiative and develop as leaders. They are valued and supported to think deeply and ask 'big questions'. They regularly put the needs of others before themselves. • As an expression of the Christian vision, collective worship is highly valued by the whole school community. It is developed and enriched by exceptional opportunities for pupil leadership. Through space to think deeply, reflect and respond, worship significantly influences the lives of pupils and staff, enabling them to flourish. • RE at St Leonard's is inspiring, challenging and engaging. A consistent enquiry-based approach empowers pupils to explore their own and others' convictions with deep understanding.



Areas for development

- Map out further opportunities for reflection and spirituality across the whole curriculum to enrich the high quality and well-planned opportunities for pupils' spiritual development.

Inspection findings

At St Leonard's, the vision of, 'growing in faith and learning', is a natural expression of the school's Christian foundation. The distinctively Christian vision and associated values shine through all documentation and communication and are deeply rooted in Christian scripture. This impacts profoundly on the life and work of the whole school community. Parents talk about the tangible difference that St Leonard's has made to them and their families through kindness and compassion. Despite recent changes in leadership, the school community has continued to keep its Christian character at its heart. As expressed continually, 'our vision and values are just normal and natural. They are so embedded, they're just what we do'. Through caring relationships and rigorous monitoring and evaluation, governors have an exceptionally clear understanding of the challenges and achievements at St Leonard's. Professional development for all staff and governors, and a well-being focus, are prioritised, enabling staff and governors to flourish. As a result, they are highly invested in the school vision. School leaders proactively promote mutually supportive partnerships with other schools, the parish church and the community. The school takes innovative opportunities to share quality practice with others.

St Leonard's aspirational curriculum is underpinned by the Christian vision for, 'irresistible learning and high achievement'. Staff are passionate about meeting pupils' needs, nurturing each individual to be the best they can be. As exclaimed by a parent, 'staff here really care. They continually go over and above to make sure that even the most challenging needs are met'. Provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities and those who suffer disadvantage is a particular strength of the school. A huge range of extracurricular and enrichment activities give many opportunities for flourishing in the widest sense. Pupils take great pride in all their achievements. These are celebrated widely, such as though 'wow walls', wall of fame and values awards. A strong, shared understanding of spiritual development inspires a culture where pupils have space to think exceptionally deeply. However, opportunities for reflection and spirituality are not as well developed across the whole curriculum as they are in RE and collective worship. Consequently, opportunities to support pupils' understanding of ways of relating to themselves, others, the wider world and God can occasionally be missed.

The vision to nurture, 'caring, responsible citizens, excited by change', has widened pupils' perspectives to watch over one another in love. This is modelled by the parish Mother's Union, who significantly support the pupils and families. St Leonard's is described by many as, 'the small school that does big things'. Pupils regularly engage in social action. They are passionate about the tangible difference they make across the community and beyond. Working with local organisations, this has included, 'feed the hungry' food packing events and the production of kindness kits. Pupils are articulate advocates of change. They are passionate about challenging injustice and inequality.

The school's approach to supporting pupil behaviour is compassionate, supportive and built on the school's Christian vision and values. All rules are based on the school's values and are understood by pupils as living from Jesus' example. Staff naturally and sensitively deal with needs and worries as they arise. Highly effective strategies to support emotional development, positive relationships and mental health are prominent and run through all provision. These include support for emotional regulation, meditation, nurture time and a fabulous worry monster. Pupils have confidence that bullying, while rare, is taken seriously. They value the way in which all accounts are listened to equitably, with strategies built on forgiveness and reconciliation. Pupils




are highly empathetic and naturally consider the needs and feelings of others.

The Christian vision of, 'add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge', has led to highly inclusive practice across school. Relationships at all levels are underpinned with kindness, acceptance and mutual understanding. Consequently, everyone is truly valued and accepted as children of God. As one pupil said, 'It is fine to be whoever we are because God loves us. That is why we love and accept each other'. The 'Superheroes Not Wearing Capes' project has supported pupils' appreciation of the value of themselves and others.

Collective worship at St Leonard's is inclusive yet invitational. Everyone's involvement is welcomed, but without compulsion. Pupils, staff and parents talk with enthusiasm about worship because of the tangible sense of community and belonging that it engenders. As an outworking of the vision, pupils grow personally and spiritually through the positive impact worship has on behaviour and attitudes. Worship is planned around the school values and strongly supports pupils' biblical understanding and spiritual development. The worship committee of children from across school take a considerable role in daily worship. This includes a deep and meaningful process of evaluation, continually driving developments such as greater pupil involvement. Opportunities for prayer and reflection are prominent and deeply embedded across the life of the school. A pupil confided, 'When I pray in school, I feel like I'm with God'. Singing is a powerful and unifying element of worship at St Leonard's where pupils sing from the heart. Collective worship in church is well attended by parents, who feel welcomed and valued. A particular strength at St Leonard's is the interdependence of church and school worship, with shared prayers songs and worship traditions. Through global partnerships, and celebrations of diverse Christian worship, pupils have an astute understanding of Christianity as a vibrant worldwide faith.

RE supports spiritual growth, challenges intolerance respectfully and prepares pupils for life. A creative, reflective RE curriculum infuses the whole life and work of the school. Thoughtful questioning and structured reflection support pupils in thinking deeply about their own identity and beliefs about God. This empowers them to confidently explore their own and others' convictions with a deep level of understanding. Pupils ask and answer big questions of life, such as, 'can one person change the world?' Through the study of several religions, pupils have an informed and respectful understanding of a range of beliefs and worldviews. They enjoy exploring religious texts, developing a deep understanding of the Bible and Christian tradition through skills of enquiry, interpretation and analysis. Pupils choose how they present their learning in RE, nurturing creative independent learners who value their learning in RE. Governor and senior leadership monitoring of the effectiveness and impact of RE contributes significantly to a practice cycle of school improvement. For example, inconsistencies identified in a book trawl in February had been dealt with fully by May. The RE leader shares her experience and expertise to support other RE leaders in local schools.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent	
	<p>The quality of teaching in RE is always good or better, as shown through astute and accurate monitoring by leaders. Red and Green bookends ensure learning builds on prior knowledge and demonstrate progress made at the end each topic. Work in RE is highly effective in meeting the full range of pupil needs. Marking and feedback in RE is developmental and challenging and supports exceptionally strong progress across school.</p>			
Information				
School	Wigginton St Leonard's Church of England VA Primary School	Inspection date	17 May 2023	
URN	124345	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	
Diocese/District	Lichfield	Pupils on roll	134	
Headteacher	Caroline Hall			
Chair of Governors	Debra Dyson and Sue Sly			
Inspector	John Clapham	No.	775	