

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Heskin Pemberton's Church of England Primary School	
Address	Withington Lane, Heskin, Chorley, PR7 5LU
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>"Let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:14</p> <p>A school family, built on love, strengthened by faith, and enriched by joy.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's vision is deeply rooted in the Christian theology of love. This shapes the bold and ethical decisions of thoughtful leaders, permeating every aspect of school life. Love envelops all who are associated with the school. This results in an exceptionally inclusive community where pupils and adults flourish as 'a family, built on love'. • An abundance of life-affirming opportunities to develop spirituality are woven throughout school life. Many pupils relish these opportunities which enable spiritual flourishing within and beyond the school. However, some pupils lack a shared way to talk about spirituality. Consequently these pupils find it difficult to express what it means to them. • Vibrant and transformative collective worship is a wonderful expression of the school's Christian vision to be 'strengthened by faith'. High-quality class worship is innovative and inspiring and makes an exceptional contribution to pupils' spiritual, character and moral development. • Ambitious and purposeful curricular and extracurricular opportunities broaden pupils' awareness of the diverse global society in which they live. This transforms pupils' understanding of advocacy and empowers many to be courageous agents for change. • Exemplary opportunities to respond creatively ensure an approach to RE which makes an extraordinary contribution to pupils' spiritual development.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enrich the wealth of existing opportunities for spiritual development by securing a shared way for all to talk about spirituality. This is to enable all pupils to express what it means to them so they can share their spiritual flourishing.



Inspection findings

The vision to 'let all that you do be done in love' intrinsically drives the work of this deeply Christian school. Every action and decision flows from this simple yet profound vision. Leaders and governors articulate how the vision is deeply rooted in Scripture and how this shapes their authentically caring ethos. Sincerely loving relationships enable all stakeholders to demonstrate Jesus' love to one another. This reflects the inherent worth of every member of the school, enabling all to feel safe and valued as individuals. Consequently, the vision establishes 'a family, built on love' resulting in an extraordinary culture of empowerment and flourishing.

Dynamic relationships between leaders and governors ensure that formal and organic monitoring leads to school improvement. Self-evaluation is highly effective and results in innovative and exemplary initiatives which strengthen the school's development as a Church school. Meaningful links with the local Anglican church offer purposeful support which enhances the spiritual life of the school. A strong partnership with Blackburn Diocese enables staff to engage with training on up-to-date thinking in Church school education. Vitalising connections with other churches, from a range of Christian traditions, help pupils to explore Christianity. Life-giving partnerships facilitate pupils access to a wealth of enriching opportunities enabling spiritual and character development.

Woven into the fabric of the school are myriad opportunities for all to grow spiritually. Opportunities for stillness, creativity, reflection and wonder, equip pupils to develop as deep and curious thinkers. Pupils lack a shared way to talk about spirituality. Consequently, some pupils find it difficult to articulate what it means to them. However, other pupils readily express how these opportunities help them to connect with God, express themselves and develop self-belief. The exemplary use of a Year 4 residential focused on spiritual and physical development engages pupils in genuinely deep reflection. A culture of spontaneous prayer profoundly transforms the spiritual lives of some pupils within and beyond school life. For example, some find prayer offers them wisdom and strength, even in difficult times. Purposeful and inspiring opportunities weave together, creating an impressive culture of openness, which leads to spiritual flourishing for all.

Inclusive and inspiring collective worship is the beating heart of the vision for love, faith and joy. It is a joyous, daily expression of what it means to be 'a family, built on love'. Many pupils relish planned and informal opportunities to lead worship. Their involvement invokes courage in other pupils who are enabled to participate as leaders through the pupil ethos teams. Through worship, pupils develop a sound understanding of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Frequent visitors from a range of Christian traditions support pupils to learn about worship. Pupils explore gospel values in impressive depth and worship inspires them to 'love others as they love themselves'. This motivated the school council to donate funds to a brain injury charity, rather than using them for their own benefit. The evaluation of worship by pupils and adults, led to the development of exceptional and empowering class worship. One example is the innovative use of a book series based on diverse and inspiring biographies. Linked with Bible verses, these have a transformative impact on pupil's understanding of advocacy. Learning about David Attenborough's story inspired pupils to consider what they can do to reduce single use plastic. As a result, individuals changed their behaviours and the eco-council are working with leaders to make changes to school policy. Pupils aspire to be pioneering advocates who change the world. Consequently, the impact of collective worship on pupils' spiritual and character development is excellent.

The vision shapes the wider curriculum which encourages pupils to respect difference and diversity. Christian values planned into each unit of work, allow pupils to reflect on their 'real




world' application. This has a demonstrable impact on the behaviour and attitudes of pupils which are deeply caring and respectful. Personal, social, health and economic education (PSHE) curriculum makes a strong contribution to pupils' understanding of equality. For example, pupils' responses, during the World Cup, demonstrate their desire to combat racial and sexual orientation discrimination. Staff training on courageous advocacy has a considerable impact on how they support pupils to be agents of change. Thus, pupils develop active compassion and a deep concern for justice. This is exemplified through pupil led initiatives supporting a food bank, and the sponsorship of a local assistance dog. One pupil is undertaking a 90km walk in aid of a charity supporting refugees. Consequently, curricula and extracurricular opportunities enable pupils to understand challenges in the wider world, through a lens of hope and love. This makes a remarkable contribution to pupils' character development and equips pupils to become agents of change.

Impressively inclusive, the vision drives leaders to ensure that every child is 'enriched by joy' through learning. Tailored and holistic provision for vulnerable pupils and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) results in exceptional support. Dedicated leaders ensure that any barriers to achievement are identified and addressed with thoughtful precision. This enables all pupils to access focused teaching which gives every pupil the opportunity to flourish academically. Vision-driven policies ensure that love shapes every part of school life. This is exemplified in the school's marking and feedback policy which involves teacher and pupil sitting side by side. Consequently, pupils learn how to improve their learning, in a loving context, which increases their academic engagement.

RE enables pupils to explore Christian theology, develop curiosity, and discover different ways in which believers live out their faith. Pupils highly value the opportunity to learn about a range of world religions and world views, including Christianity. Visits to places of worship and visitors to school, make a strong contribution to pupils' understanding of religions. Across the school a range of tasks include eliciting responses from stakeholders and visitors. This enables pupils to gather a rich set of information about how different people view Christian concepts and practices. Therefore, pupils understand Christianity to be a living and diverse faith. Pupils develop skills to interpret, synthesise and analyse religious texts, actions and beliefs. Varied and engaging tasks allow pupils to demonstrate their understanding, reflect deeply and respond creatively. This makes an exceptional contribution to pupils' spiritual and moral development.

Adults within school experience excellent support. Purposeful and relevant training opportunities directly improve their practice, which leads to professional fulfilment. A culture of wellbeing results in staff who feel deeply nurtured and highly valued. Staff attest to the transformative power of belonging to this school family. Consequently, adults are profoundly invested in the flourishing of one another and of the whole school community.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent
	<p>The rich and engaging RE curriculum is balanced and progressive. Highly effective strategies are used to support pupils' recall of prior learning and build upon their knowledge. Exceptional care is taken to ensure that pupils with SEND access the curriculum through tailored support. Reflective teachers access and implement high quality training. Expert subject leadership includes monitoring and systems of assessment which are specific and evaluative. Remarkable teaching secures high standards in the subject, resulting in pupils making excellent progress.</p>		
Information			
School	Heskin Pemberton's Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	11 July 2023
URN	119475	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided
Diocese/District	Blackburn	Pupils on roll	94
Headteacher	Alan Brindle		
Chair of Governors	Paul Holding		
Inspector	Ali Rice	No.	2103