

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

John Harrison Church of England Primary School	
Address	North Street, Barrow On Humber, DN19 7AP
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

School's vision
<p>Success through Effort: Growing together in knowledge and faith.</p> <p>Our purpose is to help every individual of all faiths and none, to become all that they can be. Inspired by the achievements and faith of John Harrison, we exist to nurture a thirst for learning and excellence, cherished in the love of God. Within the fellowship of Christ, we celebrate success, joy and perseverance together as one.</p> <p>"I can do all things through Christ who gives me strength" Philippians 4:13</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school has a well-developed Christian vision, grounded in theology and supported by the inspirational example of local historical figure John Harrison. The vision is understood by all members of the school community and clearly impacts positively on the lives of both adults and pupils. However, leaders, including governors, do not regularly evaluate the effectiveness of the school as a Church school. • The Christian vision supports and inspires the planning and delivery of an engaging curriculum. This ensures that pupils have the opportunity to overcome challenges and achieve success. • An impressively wide range of activities are provided to nurture character and leadership development while also supporting the wellbeing of pupils. Opportunities for social action at national and global scale are limited. • Collective worship is highly valued and well-structured, providing opportunity for reflection and learning. However, there is not a shared understanding or language of spirituality. • Religious Education (RE) is taught effectively, with confidence and academic rigour, while providing a safe space for pupil discussion and personal growth.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve all members of the school community in regular monitoring and evaluating of the impact of the Christian vision. This will deepen and support further development of the vision. • Develop opportunities for all pupils to engage in meaningful social action as a challenge to injustice, both nationally and globally. • Establish a shared understanding and language of spirituality to support the spiritual development of all pupils and adults.

Inspection findings

In the three years since their appointment, the headteacher and senior leaders have worked relentlessly to develop a highly effective Christian vision. The vision, grounded in theology, uses the example of local historical figure John Harrison to support the core value of perseverance. The vision is now a strong foundation for all aspects of the work of the school. It informs and guides decisions made by the governing body. Pupils explain how the vision gives them encouragement in and out of school. Staff are able to articulate ways in which the vision helps to shape the curriculum and support their work. Adults are able to flourish as a result of the strong sense of united purpose the vision provides.

To enhance its work with the wider community, the governing body recently appointed a family liaison officer. Driven by the Christian vision, this is having a significant impact on the lives of a number of pupils and their families. Pupils flourish as a result of the vision. Parents are extremely positive about the work of the school and the care their children receive. Some children talk openly and confidently at home about Christian teaching in worship and RE.

Leaders, including governors, are fully aware of the way the vision informs the work of the school. However, they have not established a regular process of evaluation of the impact of the vision involving the whole school community.

The school's curriculum has recently been completely renewed to reflect the Christian vision. There is clear aspiration to ensure that teaching is completely inclusive and accessible to all. Expectations are set high, with appropriate support ensuring success regardless of pupils' starting points. Pupils joining the school are welcomed, settled well and make good progress. This is, in part, due to the curriculum and its sensitive delivery.

Explicit provision is made in the curriculum for exploration of the school's Christian values. This ensures a sense of continuity across all subjects and all aspects of the work of the school. Pupils are able to flourish in both learning and personal development as result of the carefully constructed curriculum. A lack of shared understanding and language of spiritual development means that not all opportunities are identified and taken.

School leaders have developed a very impressive range of opportunities for pupils to develop character and leadership. Pupils value these and take seriously the responsibilities given to them. Care is taken to ensure that all pupils, regardless of background or other abilities, are able to be involved. The vision helps to raise pupils' aspirations in extra-curricular and fundraising activities.

There is a very effective school council made up of democratically elected members. The council works hard to ensure that all pupils have a voice in the ongoing improvement of their school and the wider community.

Social action extends to consideration of the needs of the natural world. Pupils regularly consider ways to improve the environment in Brain Builder activities. These are completed with families at home and celebrated in school. There is less opportunity to take action in response to injustice at national and global levels.

Behaviour across the school is exemplary. There is a strong sense of community that encourages resolution of conflict. High value is placed on maintaining good relationships within and across all ages. Pupils are happy and feel safe in school. Where disputes or attendance issues arise, the school is quick to act and restore positive relationships. Care is taken to support the mental health and wellbeing of pupils and adults. Provision of a nurture room, a family liaison officer, dedicated space for staff to work and open channels of communication are indicators of this commitment. Pupils and members of staff are accepted

and valued. There is a strong culture of support for pupils' personal growth and the professional development for staff. Dignity and respect are modelled and offered across all parts of the school.

The vibrant worship life of the school is a particular strength. The pattern of worship is very well structured, drawing on both bible teaching and church tradition. Pupils develop a good understanding of Christian belief and how it can be applied in their lives. Daily collective worship is enhanced by class and home-based activities exploring themes and prompting deep reflection. This contributes significantly to the spiritual nurture of the whole school community.

There are highly impressive levels of pupil involvement in planning, leading and evaluating worship. This contributes to individual growth in confidence and a strong identity of the school as a worshipping community. The lives of many pupils and staff are enriched by worship in school.

Partnerships with the local Anglican and Methodist churches are well-developed and support aspects of worship. School leaders are open to fresh ideas and make good use of training and advice provided by the diocese. This helps to ensure that the worship-life of the school continues to improve.

RE is highly valued as an academic subject, while also providing opportunity for discussion and personal growth. Planning is extremely thorough and well-structured. Time is provided for staff training in RE. Teachers benefit from mutual support and strong subject leadership.

Newly introduced knowledge organisers are having a very positive impact on pupils' learning in RE. Key vocabulary, core knowledge and links to previous learning are identified, all of which help children learn and remember more. The question-based approach to RE ensures regular debate and discussion of ideas. Pupils are able to share thoughts and reflect on their own personal beliefs in a safe environment.

The school has worked hard to provide high quality experiences to support pupil's understanding of non-religious worldviews. This has enhanced the strong core focus on Christianity and a number of other world faiths. Teachers regularly assess pupils' learning.

The school's Christian vision and values, inspired by the perseverance of John Harrison, make this a school where all flourish.

Information			
School	John Harrison Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	14 June 2023
URN	118005	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Lincoln	Pupils on roll	190
Headteacher	Jo Curtis		
Chair of Governors	Paul Raistrick		
Inspector	Peter Barfoot	No.	2216