

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>St Andrew's Benn Church of England Primary School</b>	
Address	Chester Street, Rugby, CV21 3NX
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>'God is love, whoever lives in love, lives in God and God in them' 1 John 4:16</p> <p>Feed the mind, Achieve your best, Make a difference, Imagine the impossible, Love our values, You are loved. (FAMILY)</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The transformational Christian vision is at the heart of everything the school does. The vision ensures that God's love within the context of 'FAMILY' enables all at St Andrew's Benn to thrive and flourish.</li> <li>• Pupils and adults are unconditionally loved and cared for. This creates a strong climate where pupils can make good progress, regardless of their starting points, background, culture or need.</li> <li>• Through the highly effective vision pupils are inspired and motivated to be courageous advocates. Their impact on global issues and causes is less understood.</li> <li>• Leaders have ensured that worship is fully inclusive and enables all those from different faiths and backgrounds to fully engage. A shared language of what spirituality looks like has yet to be agreed.</li> <li>• Pupils are given the opportunity to explore challenging concepts and have a good knowledge and understanding of the range of world faiths taught. A deeper knowledge of the Bible is yet to be consistently developed.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to explore what spirituality looks like at St Andrew's Benn in order that all can develop their spiritual journey and deepen their spiritual experience.</li> <li>• Pupils to explore more widely the impact that their social action has on others, so that they gain a greater understanding of the causes they support.</li> <li>• Extend and deepen all pupils' knowledge of the Bible so that pupils can articulate its relevance in today's world.</li> </ul>

## Inspection findings

St Andrew's Benn's powerful vision reflects the community it serves and God's love can be felt when you enter the school. This lived out vision and associated values is shared and strongly promoted by all to a diverse community. All members of this community are inspired by the 'FAMILY' vision and go above and beyond to ensure everyone can flourish. Staff lead by example, modelling the vision through the strategic decisions they make, and the strong partnerships they develop. They ensure that pupils and adults understand how they can thrive through the vision and values. These are strongly embedded and woven through every aspect of school life. The values are clearly underpinned by the Bible. Governors regularly monitor the impact of the vision and values and are actively involved in the life of the school.

Strong partnerships exist between school, the local churches and Coventry Diocese. School leaders are proactive in developing these links to ensure that the support received enables adults and children to grow. Adults know they are valued and supported by committed leaders, where having a good mental health and manageable workload are a priority. There is a strong sense that staff are working together and this helps them in challenging times, professionally and personally. They welcome opportunities to improve through relevant training and as a result are enriched professionally.

The headteacher is the driving force in growing the vision, leading to significant improvements in learning behaviours. Consequently, pupils are safe, they behave well together and develop into well rounded individuals. Pupils have a deep respect for each other clearly seen when the older pupils interact with the younger ones. Pupils highly value their vision and know God's love is important. A pupil commented that, 'God's love shows we are all equal no matter who we are or where we are.'

Pastoral provision for children and families at the school is strong. Leaders' decisions to maintain a dedicated family room ensures all families feel supported. Staff go above and beyond helping parents and as a result relationships between school and parents are positive. Parents actively choose this school because of the love it shows and the support they receive. Parents appreciate the staff's deep commitment of doing the best they possibly can for every child.

The school's ambitious curriculum and extra-curricular provision supports the academic and wider development of all learners. The provision of dedicated learning leaders has had a significant impact on improving outcomes for pupils. Vulnerable pupils and those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are given the appropriate support they need in lessons. Pupils with English as an additional language (EAL) are given the necessary strategies needed to access learning. Consequently, all pupils thrive in their learning.


Pupils engage in social action, recognising what this looks like for their diverse community. They regularly support the school foodbank. Pupils know that it is often the 'good deeds' that make the biggest difference on the lives of their families. Pupils at this school are empowered by the school vision to speak out for positive change. They fundraise for the school and have supported Cancer Research and Water Aid recently. They are less clear on the impact their fundraising has on global issues. Pupils are given opportunities to become responsible citizens, which they take seriously. Becoming an ambassador for the school, eco warrior or rabbit monitors being the most sought-after roles. Pupils are passionate about global issues and caring for the environment. The recent Global Adventure week enabled further learning about different countries and cultures. One child observed that, 'We should be doing more in the world to make it a better place, I am grateful for everything I have.' The recent visit to the Alive 2023 Praise Party has had a profound impact on pupils who want to be world changers.

Collective worship brings a sense of belonging to the community. It is highly inclusive and inspiring. Pupils value worship and see it as a time where they can be together and share their vision. Collective worship is Christian in nature and follows Anglican traditions offering all opportunities to reflect and respond. All major Christian festivals, as well as those of other faiths, and significant events are acknowledged and celebrated. All children attend church for these special services held regularly during the school year. The recent Pentecost worship demonstrated how God communicated with people of different languages. This was recognised by the pupils as being particularly relevant at St Andrew's Benn where 43 languages are spoken. Pupils actively lead in worship and themes flow from the Christian vision. Music is an inspirational part of worship and pupils engage with enthusiasm. The song 'The Blessing' is one of their favourites being fully inclusive with the repeated lyrics.

Leaders are currently exploring spirituality and developing a common shared language. They have embedded purposeful prayer in school which is valued by all. Pupils are invited to write their own prayers and reflections and share these in worship in their language of choice. Pupils use the quiet spaces in school and home for prayer and reflection. One pupil stated, 'I pray in my bedroom quietly because I am a bit shy, but God can even hear a million miles away because nothing is impossible for God.' This demonstrates the positive impact of the school vision and its work on developing prayer at home.

The school uses the Diocese syllabus alongside the 'Understanding Christianity' scheme to ensure Religious education (RE) is ambitious and well planned. Most pupils enjoy their learning in RE. For some pupils their understanding of how RE is relevant to them is yet to be developed. Strong leadership in this area ensures that teachers who teach RE are increasing their confidence and improving their knowledge. Teachers have high expectations and scaffold work for learners, ensuring those with SEND or EAL can take part fully in lessons. Pupils are given the opportunities to ask challenging questions that require deeper thinking. With support they are developing the ability to articulate responses to these questions and therefore thrive in RE.

St Andrew's Benn School is a beacon of love to the local community. The shared vision of "God is love, whoever lives in love, lives in God and God in them" makes this a truly inclusive school that lovingly supports the flourishing of all pupils, adults and families.

	The effectiveness of RE is		Good	
	Through a rich and engaging curriculum, pupils are provided with meaningful opportunities to engage with different faiths and world views. They recall previous learning about these in detail. A deeper knowledge of the Bible is less embedded. Pupils know how well they are doing in RE and what they need to do to improve. Leaders regularly monitor RE which ensures teaching is effective and pupils of all abilities, including SEND make good progress in RE.			
Information				
School	St Andrew's Benn Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	22 June 2023	
URN	130877	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	
Diocese/District	Coventry	Pupils on roll	350	
Headteacher	Abi Huggins			
Chair of Governors	Corina Robson			
Inspector	Paula Shaw	No.	2245	