

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Andrew's Church of England Primary and Nursery School, Skegby	
Address	Mansfield Road, Skegby, Sutton-in-Ashfield, NG17 3DW
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>In Jesus' words to St Andrew and the fishermen we ask our children to 'Push Out into the Deep' and challenge themselves in all that they do. They are supported and encouraged to take risks and develop holistically by caring staff and through a progressive curriculum, so that they can flourish.</p> <p>'Push out into the deep.' Luke 5:4</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision is lived out and articulated by all members of the school community. Pupils use it to support and stretch themselves in daily life. The vision runs through all aspects of the curriculum. • The wellbeing of members of the school community is a priority. This is so that all are enabled to 'push out into the deep'. Provision for wellbeing is an excellent feature of the school. • Daily school life contains many spiritual moments, which are recognised and explored by pupils and adults. However, there is not yet a shared vocabulary for spiritual development in place. • Church and school relationships are extremely strong. Collective worship is effectively underpinned by the vision and impacts on the lives of pupils. Some pupils experience collective worship leadership roles. • Religious education (RE) is exceptionally high quality and pupils of all abilities and backgrounds are flourishing in RE. There are rigorous and effective systems of monitoring in place, thus ensuring engaged, respectful, and eager learners.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the role of pupils in planning and leading collective worship. This is so that pupils deepen their understanding of the importance of worship. • Establish a school wide understanding of what is meant by spirituality. This is so that pupils and adults can confidently explore their own spiritual understanding and that of others.

Inspection findings

The long established and ever developing Christian vision empowers the school community. The vision is lived out through six Christian values pictured on a hand. The vision, values and hand are intrinsic to school life and families describe them as 'spilling over into home life'. The biblical background to the vision is seen across the school and the church community. 'Push out into the deep' awards are an effective tool to enable all to recognise the vision in action. Leaders clearly link decision making to the vision. Governors include a reflection on the impact of the vision in their meetings. The vision underpins all aspects of reflection and self-evaluation. For example, the recent restructuring of governor committees to be more strategically focused. The school is well supported by the diocese and the local church with foundation governors an almost daily presence in school. Leaders engage enthusiastically in diocesan training programmes and welcome the provision of mentoring from other church school leaders. To evaluate their effectiveness as a Church school, leaders make significant efforts to respond to pupil and parent feedback. There are excellent examples of taking age-appropriate feedback in place. Collective worship and RE are prioritised in terms of funding, resources, training and most importantly time.

Spiritual development opportunities occur across all aspects of school. These are both planned and spontaneous including, wellbeing time, prayer spaces and forest school sessions. Families and pupils welcome this holistic approach. Pupils accurately describe wellbeing time as 'setting them up for the day'. Adults and pupils can identify spiritual development in action and its impact on their lives. This goes beyond collective worship and RE. However, as yet there is no shared vocabulary in place to enable everyone to articulate, share and deepen their personal experiences.

The school has taken bold staffing decisions to ensure that the learning needs of pupils are met. There is a highly creative range of therapeutic interventions and specialists available to support pupils and families. The school strategically supports vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils, ensuring they can access music lessons and trips so they flourish. Parents correctly identify the care and support provided to families at St Andrews as a significant strength of the school. The creative, captivating and challenging curriculum enables pupils to 'push out into the deep' and meets the needs of their community.

The wellbeing of members of the school community is a constant focus. Actions to improve wellbeing include starting the day with wellbeing time and developing 'linger longer' coffee mornings to support families. The governors provide significant pastoral support to leaders and all staff are given personal growth professional development time. Leaders have nurtured a team ethos described as 'we've got you' which ensures that adults and pupil's alike flourish. A staff member correctly said, 'this is the best environment I have ever worked in.' This meticulous focus on wellbeing has ensured that provision for wellbeing is exceptional.

Character development runs through the school as an integral part of 'pushing out into the deep'. Pupils in Year 5 take part in the Archbishop's Young Leaders Award and engage in a wide range of social action. The culture of pupil initiated action includes wellbeing day, business kids, lunchtime litter picking and writing to their local MP. Pupils are fully committed to engaging in social action well beyond fundraising and St Andrew's supports them in whatever way necessary. Pupil behaviour is exemplary, pupils feel safe and nurtured in all they do.

Collective worship is a highlight of the day for the school community. Pupils describe worship as 'it changes my life...and lets me open up'. Collective worship is valued, and all feel they



can be included. Silent singing and the use of signing are ways in which the school have actively sought to ensure worship is inclusive. Pupils are aware of appropriate Anglican traditions and experience worship in a variety of venues and styles. Sung worship is enthusiastic and uplifting. There are close links with the local church. For example, the vicar stays in school after his weekly collective worship to offer 'time to talk' to families. Worship leaders in Year 6 take their roles very seriously. Pupils in other year groups enjoy occasional leadership roles in church based worship. However, pupils are keen to extend their experience in planning and leading worship. This will enable them to deepen their understanding of the importance of worship. Pupils evaluate worship and adult worship leaders are reflective about their own practice. The governors are informed through informal monitoring about collective worship.

Pupils are flourishing through exceptionally high quality RE provision. Highly effective curriculum planning ensures that pupils engage with religious texts, theological ideas, and big life questions. Careful consideration has been given to the choice of religions and worldviews to study to fit the school's context. In addition to RE lessons, pupils benefit from a range of faith experience days and visits which engage all learners. Pupils know that they are safe to share their views in a mutually respectful environment. The RE lead facilitates a local RE partnership and all staff have benefitted from diocesan training. Rigorous assessment and monitoring systems are in place, which ensure that good practice is shared across the school. For example, in the creation of a bank of sample pieces of work to support accurate assessment. As with all other subject areas the vision runs throughout the RE curriculum. Pupils use the 'head, hands, and hearts' method to reflect upon their learning and link to the vision.

Across the whole of school life, members of the school community are 'pushing out into the deep'.

Information			
School	St Andrew's Church of England Primary and Nursery School, Skegby	Inspection date	10 July 2023
URN	122742	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Southwell & Nottingham	Pupils on roll	314
Headteacher	Ian Snelling		
Chair of Governors	John Summerfield		
Inspector	Ruth Houston	No.	947