



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Matthew's Bloxam Church of England Primary School	
Address	Webb Ellis Road, CV22 7AU
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

School's vision
<p>"In the same way, let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and glorify your father in heaven" (Matthew Chapter 5 Verse 16)</p> <p>We aim for forgiveness and reconciliation in safe surroundings. We seek experiences to spark confidence to nurture and show delight. We want to illuminate hopes, dreams and aspirations and to build humanity through relationships inspired by the glow of others. We value everyone through thoughts and actions.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's vision has a strikingly normal, life-changing and transformational impact on the lives of pupils and adults. • Active acceptance and inclusion of all pupils empowers and equips them to 'let their light shine'. • Pupils' learning opportunities are planned with an outward looking, wide perspective at their core. This creates a dynamic and relentless compassion for God's world at all scales, from local to global. • Worship is an integral part of the school's life. It creates a rich culture of deep reflection which changes lives. • High levels of expertise create a culture of constant development in religious education (RE), allowing pupils to become confident, independent learners.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and share the excellent practice of St Matthew's. This will enable other Church schools to benefit from its transformational impact. • Re-establish the pupil worship group. This will extend pupils' opportunities to plan and lead worship whilst also enhancing the spiritual development of the whole community.



Inspection findings

The Christian vision of St Matthew's Bloxam is an ever-present strand running through every aspect of the school. 'Let your light shine' is at the core of daily life, through the learning opportunities and beyond. This vision was consciously chosen as it encompasses everyone, reflecting the diversity of the school's intake. Leaders involved all members of the community in its development, creating a genuine sense of ownership. 'Shine' is used as an acronym for the school's wider values but also for its code of behaviour. This facilitates the use of consistent language whilst making the vision practical and relevant. Together they are woven through all the school's policies. This makes them a genuine part of everyday life. Pupils, parents, staff and governors are all able to articulate this vision and its importance. Staff see it as guidance which keeps a real peace through the school. Governors lead a robust programme of monitoring and evaluation to assess the impact of the vision. Monitoring activities include regular dialogue with staff, pupils and parents. This ensures governors are actively involved in the life of the school. They witness and can affirm with confidence the impact of the vision.

The school's entire curriculum has been redesigned within the last four years, with the vision at its heart. Leaders are mindful of the diverse intake of pupils, with a high proportion of pupils who speak English as an Additional Language (EAL). Regardless of background, all pupils have the opportunity to 'shine'. EAL pupils make rapid progress in learning English, allowing them to access the wider curriculum at an early stage. Leaders recognise that vulnerability extends beyond pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) or those who are in receipt of free school meals. This wider cohort is closely monitored and supported as a priority. Dedicated assistance is provided to the families of these pupils. This close relationship has a life-lasting and transformational impact. The school's acceptance and inclusion of all pupils extends beyond the curriculum to an extensive range of extra-curricular opportunities. These experiences actively support the spiritual development of all. The school's status as a member of International Cross of Nails Schools (ICONS) is a significant part of its spiritual life. Older pupils have been trained as ambassadors, leading their peers in developing their own spirituality. The school has held an ICONS day, led by the ambassadors. Opportunities to share this and their excellent practice with other schools are limited.

Pupils have a remarkable sense of understanding of their place within communities at all scales. Through worship and RE lessons, and the wider curriculum, they gain a sense of perspective. Pupils are encouraged to explore Big Questions. Global themes mentioned in collective worship, such as recycling or palm oil, are voluntarily explored in greater depth. Individual pupils take initiatives to support charitable causes on a local scale. The 'shine' values and behaviour code actively encourage them to develop forgiveness and reconciliation. The consistent use of this language ensures that the Christian vision remains at the centre of behaviour management. Pupils feel safe and confident as a direct result of these values. They understand and appreciate the importance of the behaviour code. Pupils display an unquestioning acceptance of diversity in all its forms, ensuring that all are included and welcomed. Staff well-being is actively supported by leaders and governors. The wider family commitments of colleagues are always accommodated. There is a genuine ethos of mutual support and an open-door policy from leaders.

Worship is central to the life of the school. The whole school community comes together every morning. This is led by school staff, pupils and representatives from the local church. All worship is Christian in nature, but remains invitational and inclusive. Themes are centred around the school's values and follow a three-year plan. This allows all pupils to re-visit and

embed the values. Classes take turns to plan and lead worship with their teachers once a year. Although there has previously been a worship group, this is not currently active. Consequently, there are missed opportunities for its planning and leadership by pupils. This limits their widespread development of spiritual flourishing. Collective worship is followed up in classes through the exploration of Big Questions. This develops a culture of deep reflection which is highly valued by pupils and staff. Responses are recorded in floor books which allow them to review their spiritual development over time. Pupils of all ages can articulate the importance of worship and reflection. They understand that these are central parts of being a church school. They see them as accessible and relevant regardless of their own faith.

The RE curriculum inherently expresses the school's Christian vision. The programme of study has been carefully planned to cover Christianity and a range of world religions. Learning is sequenced so that topics coincide with religious festivals. It is also linked directly to the programme of collective worship. Staff are given guidance and suggested resources, but most take their own initiatives with planning. Leaders monitor RE termly, including scrutinising pupils' work and gathering their opinions. In response to this, the programme of study is reviewed each year. Leaders and governors have participated in a wide range of continuing professional development (CPD) delivered by a range of providers. Time has been given to cascading this CPD to the whole staff. This shows the extent to which RE is valued by leaders. Learning incorporates a wide range of activities, stimulating pupils' enjoyment of the subject. The curriculum is enriched with visits to places of worship and themed days. Pupils speak openly of their enjoyment of RE and the extent to which they value it. They refer to religion as being part of their family and many are openly proud of their faith. They recognise that RE embodies the school's Christian vision.

Information			
School	St Matthew's Bloxam Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	30 June 2023
URN	130883	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Coventry	Pupils on roll	209
Headteacher	Anita Timson		
Chair of Governors	Alex Thomson		
Inspector	James Manship	No.	2241