

Strand 1: Vision and Leadership

Focus questions

- How well the school has developed and implemented an inclusive and distinctive Christian vision, monitoring its impact to ensure the school's original foundation is maintained.
- How well the school lives out that Christian vision in relationships and partnerships with key stakeholders.

Grade descriptors

- Governors articulate the school's vision with passion and recent relevant practical illustration. The school uses its vision to shape development plans and school policies and actions.
- Leaders ensure that senior and middle leaders have regular opportunities to develop their knowledge and understanding of strategic Church school leadership and this has demonstrable impact on pupil learning and flourishing.
- Governors/academy directors maintain the school's original foundation by ensuring that the school is engaged with diocesan and national/Methodist schools initiatives and can explain how the school has developed as a Church school since the previous denominational inspection.

Possible LOE Possible questions to pursue LOE in the context of the school

LOE: The extent to which the Christian vision is driving the school's actions

- How has the vision been reflected in the school's work during the pandemic?
- What decisions have governors/ leaders/directors made based on the vision?

LOE: How far Church school leadership has had a demonstrable effect upon pupils' learning and flourishing

- How have leaders' actions had an effect on pupils' learning and flourishing?
- Where do leaders see the flourishing happening and how is it monitored?
- How do teachers and leaders get the best from pupils?
- How did teachers ensure pupils and adults flourished during the pandemic?

LOE: How effectively Church school leadership ensures the vision takes into account the professional needs of all staff

- What systems exist for staff support, subject CPD, curriculum construction and professional fulfilment based on the vision?
- How far is RE given an important emphasis in staff training and budgetary allocation?

Suggested activities to pursue LOE

Scrutinise policies / development plans for evidence of vision.

Ask leaders at all levels about:

- how the vision was formed in response to local needs.
- recent examples of impact.
- how the vision has helped school develop.
- how they see and interpret the vision in their own work.

Ask all staff about:

- systems/support for inexperienced, non-specialist, struggling teachers based on the vision.
- quality and impact of CPD - implications for workload and confidence in delivering a subject – if the vision contributes.

Ask partners (parents, social workers, churches, other schools in a MAT, community groups- foodbanks etc) if and how the school lives out its vision in partnerships.