

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

<b>Clayton-le-Woods Church of England Primary School</b>	
Address	Back Lane, Clayton-le-Woods, Chorley, PR6 7EU
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>'With God we grow'</p> <p>Together we inspire one another to live life to its fullness, rooted and built up in Christ, so that every member of our school community can learn, develop and flourish, to live in the world as the unique individuals God created us to be.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils and adults flourish because the school community understands and lives out the distinctive Christian vision. The nurture for all pupils, especially the most vulnerable, is of a very high quality.</li> <li>• Leadership at all levels, including governance, is a strength of the school. Leaders are ambitious and continue to develop and improve so that the vision is explicit in their work.</li> <li>• Across the school there are many opportunities for spiritual reflection. However, at present there is no shared understanding or common language of spirituality in place.</li> <li>• Collective worship is inclusive and invitational. It inspirationally expresses the school's Christian vision. Pupils are beginning to be active in leading collective worship. Although children's comments and thoughts about worship are collected, the evaluation and monitoring of worship is limited.</li> <li>• Pupils develop high levels of subject knowledge due to a well-planned religious education (RE) curriculum. However, at present there are limited opportunities for pupils to engage with those who follow faiths and world views other than Christianity.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a shared language and approach to spirituality. This will enable staff to plan effectively for spiritual development within RE and in the wider curriculum.</li> <li>• Deepen pupil's understanding of religions by enabling them to engage with those who follow a range of faiths and world views.</li> <li>• Plan and facilitate greater pupil involvement in leading collective worship and strengthen the monitoring and evaluation of its impact.</li> </ul>



## Inspection findings

The Christian vision, its biblical roots and linked values, are central to the life of the school. They are understood and lived out by all. Key policies are shaped by the Christian vision. As a result, the school is a happy, safe place to work and learn. Leaders are totally committed to the vision and are positive role models to pupils and staff. Within the school community, it promotes not only their children's academic learning, but also in their development as good citizens.

Leaders have designed the school's curriculum to take into account the context of the school, the vision and the needs of learners. As a result, teachers are encouraged to think about how curriculum areas develop learners' spiritually. Children and adults are enthusiastic about the mindfulness space recently created in the school grounds. It provides pupils with a place, during their social time, to be calm as an individual, or reflective as a group. A shared language and approach to spirituality is not well developed. This limits the opportunities for identifying, celebrating and monitoring the spiritual flourishing of pupils and adults.

The Christian vision to aspire and flourish is fundamental to the work on wider character development. Leaders invest in a pastoral support worker, whose role with individual children and families is to secure positive mental health and wellbeing. Partnerships with the church have enhanced the distinctive Christian character of the school. The vicar regularly leads worship with pupils in school. Joint school and church services enable families to experience the awe and wonder of the whole school community uniting together.

The ambitious and broad curriculum gives pupils time to discuss and develop their understanding of disadvantage, deprivation and concern for the world around them. The vision inspires and encourages pupils to be ambitious, with many having future aspirations to work in professions that help other people or that make a positive difference to the world. Pupils are also beginning to develop as courageous advocates for social injustice and change in the wider global society. This can be seen with classes engaging with long term solutions to local and global issues. Pupils understand that running a school uniform swap shop and sponsoring a pupil in Uganda can have a positive influence on society.

Staff and pupils demonstrate a clear understanding of the Christian vision and values of the school. This leads to a nurturing and purposeful atmosphere. Consequently, behaviour across school is of a high standard and pupils are welcoming and polite. Pupils have positive attitudes towards difference and diversity, whilst treating those who are different to themselves with dignity and respect.


The extensive grounds that the school sits in, are used well to help pupils receive a broad and balanced curriculum. Consequently, outdoor education plays an important role in supporting the vision of nurturing the wellbeing of each child. The school call themselves the Clayton-le-Woodlanders and pride themselves on their woodland craft and knowledge of the local habitat and wildlife. As a result, pupils are curious and excited learners. Planned curriculum time ensures every class makes the most of the valley where the school is situated.

Governors know the school well and are actively involved in maintaining its Christian foundation. As a result of their monitoring, they successfully worked with staff, parents and pupils to embed the Christian vision and values. Policies and documents reflect the importance of the vision and demonstrate how the school learns and develops with this at its heart. The emphasis is to create a culture of positive behaviour. As a result, pupils act with courtesy and consideration whilst trying to understand other people's points of view.

As a core subject, RE has a prominent place within the curriculum. Pupils are enthused by RE and how it helps them to think about God's big plan and the role that Christians have to play in this. Teaching is creative and engaging. As a result, pupils are able to ask their own questions and to record their thinking in interesting ways. It is well-planned and sequential so that pupils build up age-appropriate knowledge over time, therefore, meeting the Church of England Statement of Entitlement for RE. Although a range of world faiths are taught within the RE curriculum, connections between knowledge learnt, and the wider community, are limited. Consequently, pupils struggle to speak about world faiths, cultures and their traditions.

Collective worship is held in high regard by staff and pupils alike. Local clergy, who lead worship, work well with the school to ensure this is inspirational. Through imaginative exploration of Jesus and the Bible, worship is invitational, inclusive and at times moving for everyone involved. This reflects the essence of the school's vision and associated values. A positive impact can also be seen in the joyous singing that is clearly a passion for all. Pupils enjoy sharing their thoughts and ideas in this safe environment and are invited to take part in moments of reflection and prayer. Trinitarian greetings, closing prayers and some collective worship for special events are led by pupils. There is currently no evidence of impact on the strategic and daily planning from the gathered comments and reflections about collective worship.

The Christian vision at Clayton le Woods Church of England Primary School supports its community well and underpins all that happens. This enables adults and pupils to flourish together and experience life in all its fullness.

	The effectiveness of RE is		Good
	<p>All pupils make good progress in RE as a result of a rich and engaging curriculum. RE is led well through learning that is carefully planned and sequenced. Pupils' biblical knowledge supports their ability to recall and make links between their prior and current learning. Big questions provide an effective enquiry approach to challenge pupils' thinking. This enriches the high quality of teaching. The creative curriculum enables all pupils to flourish, including those with special needs and/or disabilities.</p>		
Information			
School	Clayton-le-Woods Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	8 February 2023
URN	119468	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided
Diocese/District	Blackburn	Pupils on roll	222
Headteacher	Mrs Sarah Bashora		
Chair of Governors	Mrs Ollie Woodcock		
Inspector	Rob Dean	No.	2129