

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Marlborough St Mary's Church of England Primary School	
Address	Marlborough, Wiltshire, SN8 4BX
School vision	
<p>Together we believe, learn, and achieve. Jesus and the Fishermen the New Testament Luke 5:1-11 Matthew 4:18 -22. The disciples believed in Jesus and left everything to go with him and learn to follow his path. Together they achieved great things, as the message of the good news of the Kingdom of God is still told over 2000 years later.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision with its strong biblical roots is clearly articulated and understood by the school community. The vision underpins and drives life at every level. It enables pupils and adults the confidence to grow and flourish. • The vision actively drives a culture that supports, includes, and nurtures all. Leaders ensure that there is good support for vulnerable pupils and those who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The rich provision for learning, emotional and social needs is a strength. • Worship provides calm and reflective opportunities for personal spirituality. The school's distinctive Christian vision and shared values are embedded in collective worship that is inspirational and invitational. Pupils and adults value the time to come together as one in collective worship. • Partnerships within the community, other agencies and the diocese are strong. These partnerships fostered by the headteacher, embed, and enhance a culture of well-being of all pupils and adults. • Effective leadership in religious education (RE) has established a well-sequenced and balanced curriculum. It develops knowledge and understanding of major world religions. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend opportunities for pupils to explore questions of justice and think deeply about global inequality. This is so they may understand how they can influence positive change. • Further enhance opportunities for spiritual development in collective worship so pupils may develop deeper personal insights into their own individual beliefs. • Embed and extend opportunities in RE, so pupils develop a deep understanding of the impact of religious and non-religious worldviews. 	

Inspection findings

Marlborough St Mary's is a school which welcomes all. Leaders and governors have revised and enhanced the school's vision of 'Together we believe, learn and achieve', to meet and support the needs of the local community. The refined Christian vision is fully shared and embedded into the life of the school. It develops relationships based on honesty, kindness, and respect. The vision has established a culture where pupils and adults succeed and develop as individuals. Leaders have made courageous decisions to ensure they meet the needs of those who are vulnerable or have special educational needs. Resources in school are used effectively so that every individual can achieve personal success. Initiatives, like the school dog, make a positive difference to pupils who benefit from additional emotional support.

The Christian vision drives the design and organisation of the curriculum to meet the needs of pupils. A set of termly Christian values link to the vision and are integral to daily life. Pupils recognise the values in their own lives, and how they inspire them to make good choices. The school's provision supports and fosters pupils to follow a practical, relevant curriculum, so all achieve. Outdoor learning is an integral part of teaching and learning, along with the dance studio and school radio. Pupils enjoy the range of learning opportunities. The curriculum design emphasises personal development alongside academic achievement and progress. Care is taken to support and nurture pupils ensuring they thrive and access learning.

The inclusive collective worship provides daily opportunities for reflection and stillness. Prayer and silence are used to allow pupils to engage and reflect on the meaning of worship themes and to develop spiritually. Posing questions results in pupils being sparked into taking social action. Collective worship is invitational and valued by pupils and adults alike. All recognise it as a time to reflect, question and to learn about themselves, others, and the world around them. The collective worship committee talk of how it is a time to connect with God. Pupils and adults show respect for the feelings and values of others. A strong culture of prayer is evident. Prayers are said throughout the school day and enhance opportunities for spiritual reflection. The pupils' collective worship committee talk confidently about how its ideas have developed and provided reflective spiritual opportunities for others. It takes pride in how they have established spiritual reflection areas around the school.

Leaders provide strong support for pupils and families. A belief in the importance of supportive, caring relationships is central. Relationships mirror this by the warm and supportive manner that all adopt towards one another. This culture is shown in the work with Ukrainian families. Staff have sponsored families. Ukrainian resources are displayed around school and pupils say 'it is our purpose to serve others'. There is pride in a pupil's journey whether it is playing the piano for others or accessing the school day. This enhances learning, attendance, and opportunities to take part in wider activities.

Governors articulate the vision well and can give practical examples of how it is driving their decision making. They measure the impact of the vision through thorough monitoring holding the leadership team to account. They are actively involved in training days with staff. Governors are mindful of the importance of good wellbeing for staff and pupils and actively work to achieve this. A true sense of belonging and looking after one another reverberates through the school. Staff appreciate how the leadership values and listens to them. They flourish in a culture of trust and working together. Staff talk confidently to how the vision has enabled the school community to develop. Staff firmly believe that everyone can achieve and actively seek to develop that self-belief in every learner. They appreciate the revised school vision helps them develop both professionally and personally. They embrace opportunities for professional learning. Many are

pursuing nationally accredited qualifications to enhance their practice which also supports the school's drive to continually improve.

Partnerships are a strength, driven by a vision of “working together we can be more than we can be on our own.” The leadership has built strong community links with Marlborough College, the diocese, the local authority, and other agencies. Partnerships enable the school to live out its vision and shape school policy. Pupils value the strong involvement from the local church community. Church activities and festivals in the Anglican Church calendar are woven through the year. Pupils enjoy the opportunity to worship and learn in the local church.

Initiatives such as ‘Marlborough is for all,’ engage pupils in being agents of change within their local community. Leaders understand the context of their school and strive to provide opportunities for pupils to challenge for positive change. Examples are charity work, the eco club, litter picking, and writing about recycling. All inspire pupils to challenge injustice in their community and nationally. However, pupils have not yet fully developed their understanding of how they can impact social action at a global level. They are not clear on the depth of injustice which exists in the world or that their voice can influence the wider world.

Religious education (RE) is well-planned, sequenced and enthusiastically led by the RE lead and reflects the school's vision. It is matched to pupils' needs, enabling all to flourish. Books reflect the creative, rich, and engaging opportunities pupils have used to develop their knowledge of world religions and worldviews. Pupils speak enthusiastically about RE, how it helps you know and share different faiths and how everyone has a voice. They understand Christianity is a global world faith and the importance of learning about world views. Strong links with the local diocese ensures the RE lead accesses current relevant training, which is cascaded to all staff.

These inspection findings indicate that Marlborough St Mary's Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.

Information			
School	Marlborough St Mary's Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	13 September 2023
URN	142335	VC/VA/Academy	VC
Diocese/District	Salisbury Diocese	Pupils on roll	393
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Dan Crossman		
Chair of Governors	Kate Hughes		
Inspector	Rhian Cockwell	No.	2219