

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

| Cheadle Bishop Rawle Church of England Primary School | | | | | |
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| Address | Royal Walk, Cheadle, ST10 1QA | | | | |

School vision

'I can do all things through Christ because he gives me strength' Philippians 4:13

School strengths

- The Christian vision is understood and championed throughout the school community.
 It's the driving force of decision and policy making. This results in staff and pupils uniting in a common purpose. Consequently a strong feeling of togetherness is moving the school forward.
- The inspirational leadership team and dedicated staff raise pupils' expectations through the promotion of the Christian vision. This enables pupils to believe they can achieve their hopes and dreams.
- Collective worship is highly valued by all and enjoyed by everyone in the school community. It offers opportunities for thinking deeply about the big questions in life. As a result, pupils are highly motivated to consider their own spirituality and their place in the world.
- Relationships are rooted in the school's Christian vision and values. As a consequence of their understanding of how these apply to their everyday lives, pupils' behaviour is exemplary.
- The strong partnership with the Moorlands Primary Federation and the Lichfield Diocese enhance the life of the school. The provision of a wide variety of learning opportunities enables pupils to flourish, especially in religious education (RE).

Areas for development

- Further the role of pupils in planning and leading collective worship. This will enhance pupil confidence and enrich the spiritual development of all.
- Create more opportunities where members of the school community can benefit from self-directed stillness and reflection. This will deepen and enhance their spiritual experiences.
- Broaden opportunities for pupils to engage in meaningful social action and to challenge injustice. This is to inspire them to make a difference in the world in which they live.

Inspection findings

Bishop Rawle Church of England Primary School is a safe and caring community, rooted in Christ's love. The integration of vision, values and motto enables everyone to have a deep understanding of its Christian foundation. Pupils rightly explain how they 'Go for Gold with God' and can do anything when they trust in him. There is a strong partnership with the Lichfield Diocese that strengthens their identity. Since joining the Moorlands Primary Federation in 2017, there have been improvements in all aspects of school life. Leaders and trustees ensure the vision drives decisions and policies. This promotes a high level of expectation for everyone. The sharing of the same



Christian values throughout the federation ensures cohesion and unity. This means there is an atmosphere of collaboration and determination to improve that moves the school forwards. It is a happy and thriving place to be.

The Christian vision drives the belief that everyone can do all things through God. Leaders are fiercely ambitious for all. Staff are relentless in helping pupils overcome any barriers to learning. They ensure opportunities are open to all. This gives everyone, including the most vulnerable, a feeling of being valued and the belief that they can succeed.

There are a wealth of opportunities for discussion and for concepts to be explored in detail. This means pupils listen well to others' opinions and can formulate constructive debate. There are a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including many different types of clubs, trips and visitors. The successful partnership with another local school allows many to experience farm school and outdoor learning. These opportunities help develop pupils' talents and passions and give an insight into life beyond the immediate community. Consequently, they are developing high aspirations for themselves and are flourishing.

The school values are the foundation for developing relationships. Leaders nurture a healthy work-life balance and promote the importance of a positive family life. There is a strong feeling of support for each other. Adults model respectful and caring relationships. At lunch time staff initiate games and conversations with pupils. This helps them feel cared for and loved. They are taught to practice forgiveness and reconciliation when they fall out. Pupils correctly acknowledge that it can be difficult to forgive, but that friendships are stronger as a result. This creates a deep understanding of how to develop healthy, positive relationships. As a result, behaviour is exemplary and the atmosphere is one of purposeful learning based on mutual respect.

Pupil voice is heard and is highly valued by school leaders. The various councils represent their peers well while improving the school and local environment. Pupils put forward suggestions to their peer representatives and feel listened to by staff and leaders. There are strong links with the food bank and also with the local church's outreach work. Most of the ideas for supporting charities are initiated by adults, although pupils are becoming more involved in this process. This means they are only just beginning to see themselves as independent agents for change in the wider world.

Everyone is invited to participate in collective worship. It is rightly valued by all pupils and adults as a time to come together. There are effectively planned times of praise, prayer and exploration. The school's Christian vision and values are regularly explored with reference to bible stories and real-life examples. Pupils take part in discussions and story-telling with great enthusiasm. This means they often think about the message throughout the day and consider its relevance in their lives. However, the involvement of pupils in the planning, leading and monitoring of worship is in the early stages. Therefore, their voice is not fully represented or developed in this area. Prayer provides focal points throughout the day. Pupils correctly describe it as a time to praise God, to say sorry for wrongdoing or ask for help. School provides a room for quiet, teacher led reflection activities and classes use this regularly. However, there are no spaces clearly dedicated for spontaneous contemplation and quiet time. Although there are reflection areas in the classrooms some pupils were unsure how to use these. This stifles chances to independently explore spirituality. Therefore, the understanding of this is in the early stages of development.

The RE curriculum is inspirational and the quality of teaching is good. Visionary leaders work closely with the Lichfield diocese and the federation, evaluating the curriculum regularly. This ensures it constantly challenges pupils' thinking about world faiths. Resources are well chosen and prior learning is effectively built upon. This allows pupils to expand their understanding and knowledge as they move through the school. They are able to describe bible stories in detail and consider how these affect the lives of Christians. Pupils can discuss the concepts such as stewardship, and back



their opinions using biblical references with knowledgeable ease. They are empathetic and respectful of followers of all faiths and can explain the key features of Islam and Judaism. Pupils rightly understand that having a faith is not always an easy path to follow. They describe their respect for people who undertake pilgrimages and who dedicate their lives to their faith. The RE curriculum is constantly evolving. Following advice from the diocese, the decision was taken to explore Dharmic as well as the three Abrahamic faiths. This provides the opportunity to explore a rich diversity of beliefs. As well as being taught as a subject in its own right, RE is also studied within other subjects. Consequently, pupils are developing a rich understanding of the role religion plays in social contexts today and throughout history. As a result, they make good progress in RE.

The inspection findings indicate that Bishop Rawle Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

| Information | | | | | | | |
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| Inspection date | 9 October 2023 | URN | | | 145053 | | |
| VC/VA/Academy | Voluntary aided | Pupils on roll | | | 151 | | |
| Diocese | Lichfield | | | | | | |
| MAT/Federation | The Moorlands Primary Federation | | | | | | |
| School leader | Averil Kirk | | | | | | |
| Chair | Nick Chesters | | | | | | |
| Inspector | Lesley Montgomery | | No. | 224 | 13 | | |