

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Inskip St Peter's Church of England VA School	
Address	Preston Road, Inskip, Preston, PR4 0TT
School vision	
<p>At Inskip St Peter's CE Primary School we are more than just a school, we are a family with a strong sense of community. Our theology of 'Keep your roots deep in Jesus Christ the Lord, build your lives on him and always be thankful' (Colossians 2: 7) fills our souls. Our children and adults are compassionate and respectful to one another, building friendships where we are proud of each other's achievements and offer forgiveness readily. We foster a love of learning and a determination to embrace new challenges with trust in God and in each other.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision with its strong biblical underpinning is clearly articulated and understood by the whole school community. The school recognises and values the unique talents of all are rooted in Jesus. • The vision drives a culture that supports, includes and nurtures all pupils and adults. The headteacher ensures there are good structures in place for vulnerable pupils and those who have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). • Partnerships between the Church, community and diocese are strong. These relationships enhance the Christian vision by showing where the school is rooted and where they are heading. • Collective worship is at the heart of the school. It has significant impact upon pupils, giving them a strong moral sense of what is right and wrong and how to live their lives. • Effective leadership in religious education (RE) has established a challenging curriculum, which encourages pupils to ask big questions and think deeply. This positively impacts on pupils understanding of Christianity as a world faith. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop pupils' ability to be more aware of injustice and global inequality in the world. This is so they can make a positive difference, by acting as agents of change. • Embed and extend opportunities in RE so pupils develop a deeper understanding of religious and non-religious world views from a range of world faiths. • Enable pupils to engage in the planning and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>The vision at Inskip St Peter's is deeply rooted in the school's context of a small school that is continuing to grow. Therefore it is highly successful in enabling pupil's to flourish. The strong sense of community is tangible and all adults and pupils feel a sense of belonging. Leaders and governors are easily able to explain how the vision is underpinned by the teachings of Jesus. It is lived out</p>	

through the values that are well known to everybody. They are used as part of the everyday language of learning. Governors know the school well and are highly committed to its success. Daily face to face contact with one or more governors, ensures the staff and pupils are well supported. The vision 'keep your roots deep in Jesus Christ' drives the school in its service to the disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils.

The sense of individuality and appreciation of difference is evident in the interactions around Inskip. Pupils have a keen sense of self-worth and everyone is treated with dignity and respect. Interactions are confident and eloquent, showing willingness to both express their own opinions and to listen to the viewpoints of others. Middle and upper school watch short media clips of BBC Newsround each day to keep them up to date with worldwide events. However, discussions about these events and how pupils at Inskip can help are not turned into practical action. This means that chances to become courageous advocates for change are not always identified and fully realised.

Staff talk fervently about how the Christian vision at Inskip is 'felt', and the values are Christian embodiment in action. Adults describe the school as a family and the building feels like home. This results in excellent relationships and high staff morale. Staff feel very valued and supported by their leaders. Adults at Inskip care about all pupils and ensure they have the best opportunities every day. Pupils feel listened to and supported by staff. If they need to talk they know the teachers are 'always there for them'.

Collaboration with other small schools, through the small schools partnership and local services enables staff to share good practice. This can be seen in several areas of the curriculum. Training has been offered to enhance professional development in many curriculum areas, which enables confidence in leadership of subjects. Staff take advantage of the range of diocesan training opportunities and bespoke continuous professional development is delivered regularly. This enables staff to deliver the RE curriculum with confidence. Inskip has links with forest schools who deliver weekly after school clubs, giving pupils' outdoor spiritual development opportunities. Travelling library services, book shops in the nearby town and a range of visitors are welcomed into school. These visitors have been local and national authors, people of world faiths, volunteers from the nearby churches and swimming instructors. Pupils' benefit from a wealth of cultural opportunities from these visits. They speak confidently about the inspiration they gain from the experiences. Resources such as sports funding are carefully used to ensure all benefit. The pupils are taught to swim in a temporary and heated pool in the grounds of the school.

The school makes effective use of its rural location. They plan activities that boost pupil's wellbeing and provide reflective and spiritual moments, such as mindful breathing outdoors. The pupils have quiet time to lie and feel the grass barefoot to think about all of the sensations. Pupils are given time during lessons to think. They are not expected to give an immediate answer, this was evident through lessons in all classes.

The RE leader monitors the subject's effectiveness well and offers training and encouragement to develop staff knowledge. The diocesan syllabus is well embedded at the school. 'Big' questions, are used in RE lessons enabling pupils to have a safe space in which to debate. However there are inconsistencies in the delivery of RE lessons and pupils are not receiving the same level of input. The quality of the recording in the books and floor books is not adequate to evidence learning in RE. Pupils have a good understanding of Jesus. Many speak confidently about his impact on lives and how Christians can learn from their mistakes. Whilst pupils' knowledge about Christianity is generally secure, they are not clear in their understanding of belief and practice in all major world faiths. Thus, many mix up religious celebrations, traditions and key beliefs. The visits, from Inskip St Peter's 'faith friends', although enjoyed by pupils only provides second hand experience of world faiths and beliefs. Pupils have not yet fully developed their understanding of the main world religions. RE has the status of a core subject and meets the statutory and church requirements.

Invitational and inclusive collective worship is a focal point of the day. It is shaped by Colossians 2: 7 'shaping our souls'. Pupils gain understanding of how the vision impacts on their daily life. The detailed planning for worship is based on 'Roots and Fruits' and is guided by the values of that term. Pupils are encouraged to sign up to actively participate in worship. All ages are invited to take part in worship by reading from the Bible, volunteering to act out a Bible story or lighting the Trinity candles. All are invited to pray and praise God by singing. Older pupils use the inspiration of the worship to independently compose songs to perform to the rest of the school during worship. Pupils eagerly answer questions and enjoy recapping prior learning. Pupils do not currently have opportunities to evaluate worship in ways that improve practice.

The impact of the school's vision radiates into the school community. Parents speak passionately about the personal and individual support they have received from Inskip St Peter's. Many families move their children from other educational settings or home schooling. Since the move, their children are happy, settled and excited to go to school every day. Access to counselling due to personal trauma is offered. Pupils needing specialist provision have been welcomed in with open arms and staff have been trained to accommodate pupils' medical needs. Staff go the extra mile and all pupils are loved as Jesus loved, showing the vision in lived action.

The inspection findings indicate that Inskip St Peter's School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	28 September 2023	URN	119531
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll	60
Diocese	Blackburn		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Miss Kate Leyland		
Chair	Jo Cubitt		
Inspector	Claire Clark	No.	2203