



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Riverview Church of England Primary and Nursery School, West Ewell	
Address	Riverview Road, West Ewell, Epsom, KT19 0JP

School vision
<p>Our vision, inspired by Jesus’ words “I have come that they may have life – life in all its fullness” (John 10:10), is everyone within our diverse community will flourish. Together with our values, this demonstrates that every child matters and every moment counts.</p>

School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision statement, enhanced through its associated Christian values, is the driving force for decisions, actions and daily life in the school. • Behaviour throughout the school is courteous and respectful. Pupils' understanding of diversity enhances harmonious relationships. This creates a culture where all are treated well. • The curriculum and social provision for the most vulnerable and pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) is excellent. This ensures that all pupils, including those considered the most vulnerable are enabled to flourish. • Provision in Religious Education (RE) is of high quality. The curriculum is rich and interesting and is well-sequenced to build pupils' learning. Carefully planned teaching enables pupils to flourish in their learning. • Rooted in the vision of 'life in all its fullness,' a positive culture and excellent professional development ensures that staff thrive. This directly, and positively, enhances pupils' learning.

Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand opportunities for pupils to think deeply about injustice and global inequality. This is to extend their engagement in social action beyond their locality and enhance the way the vision is lived out. • Build on current good practice by developing a shared language of spirituality across the school community. This is to strengthen pupils' and adults' understanding, so that spiritual opportunities can be explored in greater depth. • Integrate rich and relevant experiences across the curriculum to nurture and extend pupils' spiritual development.

Inspection findings
<p>Jesus’ words ‘I have come that they may have life – life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10) inspires the Riverview vision. Leaders’ commitment to enabling everyone in the school’s diverse community to flourish is resolute. Governors are highly involved and formally monitor the impact of the vision on a termly basis. Strategic planning and operational decisions are regularly tested against the strapline</p>

that 'every child matters, every moment counts'. As a result, the vision and its associated Christian values, are lived out daily and pupils at Riverview flourish.

Christian values of love and hope drive the prioritisation of inclusion and wellbeing. Strong partnerships are built with parents to achieve a shared understanding of the uniqueness and value of each individual child. When needed, the school's 'family centre' connects parents to support services including mental health guidance and parenting courses. Because effective specialist help is provided promptly, parents, as well as their children, are enabled to flourish. The 'community fridge' provides for those in need, boosted by fresh produce from the school's allotment. Echoing Jesus' generosity to strangers, new arrivals, including refugees and asylum seekers, are made welcome. Pupils gain insight into the difficulties people who are refugees face. Inspired by a culture of care, they show kindness and maturity in their response to these classmates. They speak of their keenness to help those who are at the early stages of learning English. They also know that play is not limited by language and joining a game helps someone new to feel included. As a result, pupils joining the school feel welcome, valued and are able to settle in quickly. Behaviour is excellent in lessons, relationships with staff are harmonious and children play happily together. When disputes arise, pupils are supported to resolve these. Rooted in an understanding of Christian forgiveness, they work through their differences to restore friendship.

The curriculum is carefully planned to be rich, interesting, and to expand pupils' horizons. Teaching resources embrace global and cultural breadth, across ethnicity, gender, and regions. This is effective in enabling pupils to develop an understanding of the world beyond themselves and their immediate environment. Although resources also present the opportunity for spiritual engagement and reflection on 'big questions', this is underdeveloped. This means opportunities for spiritual development within the curriculum are limited. Because leaders evaluate provision rigorously, planning and teaching are strong. As a result, pupils learn at a deep level, achieving well. Through effective, targeted support, shaped by the school's distinctively Christian vision, pupils who have SEND flourish. Building all pupils' ambition to thrive beyond their school and immediate locality is a priority. They participate in borough sports events, arts and dance festivals. Pupils from the Riverview choir speak with pride at leading worship at the Guildford Diocese leadership conference. This enhances their sense of being valued as children of God through sharing their musical gifts with others.

Adults in all roles thrive at Riverview and benefit from extensive opportunities for professional development. Leaders ensure that everyone feels valued and able to develop their skills and interests. All staff receive training, which ensures they meet the complex needs of vulnerable children who may have experienced trauma. This is rooted in leaders' drive for equity for all, which stems directly from the school's Christian vision. Equally leaders nurture individuals' career paths, including making national professional qualifications available for staff. As a result of leaders' commitment to adults, staffing is stable, providing consistency for pupils and their families. In turn this ensures that pupils feel secure and so flourish in their relationships and learning.

Collective worship is firmly rooted in the school's Christian vision and values. Pupils benefit from the spiritual experience of gathering together in worship at school and in the local church. Christian values and ideas discussed in worship are related to examples from school or local issues. As a result, pupils understand the relevance of Christian teaching to their own lives. Following the Church calendar, there is a consistent structure, including discussion, reflection and silence, and time to think. Pupils and adults make the choice to pray or to be still and think during worship. Annually appointed assembly leaders plan and lead worship on a regular basis. Considering the impact of climate change on harvest, assembly leaders pose questions for pupils to reflect on. Action points for the school are presented to the whole community, including parents, in the harvest service. As a result, worship connects pupils' thinking about big issues in society with considering what they can

do. Even so, follow up actions are largely limited to the school and locality. Pupils express views on fairness and justice and are keen to support those in need. However the school's outward-looking culture of justice is at an early stage of development. Parents feel welcomed in attending their children's class-led worship and church services. Strong links with the local church enhance pupils' experience of worship. Whole-school services at church expand opportunities for pupils' spiritual development. Classes also visit the church's 'friendship club'. They play music, present work from school and chat with club members. These links nurture pupils' love and care for others and nourish their spiritual development. The church leadership team, including some governors, contributes well to the school, including leading a weekly assembly. They set up prayer spaces inside school and outdoors for groups of pupils to attend. Prayer spaces give valuable opportunities for reflection. They offer many creative moments for stillness based on Christian festivals or the school's values. Spiritual development is largely cultivated in collective worship and engagement with group prayer spaces. Because there is time for personal reflection each person can also experience these individually. However the impact of opportunities for spontaneous, personal spiritual reflection is limited.

The recently revised RE curriculum is clear, well sequenced and adapted to meet the needs of the school community. Subject leadership is excellent and teachers are well-supported by training received from the Diocesan Board of Education. Pupils revise key facts and vocabulary as they progress. In their extended writing, they think deeply on an important theme, expressing their opinions on what they have learnt. They have good knowledge about a range of beliefs, religions and worldviews. Pupils are able to compare and contrast these, recognising similarities and differences. In this way, RE contributes significantly to the religious and racial harmony that is a strength of this school. Through a combination of a challenging curriculum, high expectations and effective teaching, pupils make good progress in RE. This includes pupils who have SEND. This is a school where all feel loved and know that they are loved by God.

The inspection findings indicate that Riverview Primary and Nursery School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	5 October 2023	URN	131072
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll	177
Diocese	Guildford		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Mercy Atkins		
Chair	Elaine Letchford		
Inspector	Rachel A Jones	No.	2237