



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

West Meon Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Church Lane, West Meon, GU32 1LF
School vision	
<p>Through our core Christian values of respect, courage and creativity, our vision is to provide an inspiring environment where each child feels safe, happy, and valued; and is supported to achieve their full potential by developing their skills, gifts and talents in all areas of the curriculum and within our community.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The strongly embedded Christian vision, expressed through values, has a significant impact. Leaders understand the needs of their community because all feel valued and supported for their uniqueness.</li> <li>• Leaders' commitment to wellbeing, particularly where there is disadvantage, leads to all pupils having their needs met. This enables all to flourish academically whilst blossoming as confident people.</li> <li>• Pupils respond positively to the vision -centred curriculum because leaders ensure they are provided with inclusive and engaging activities. The pupils live out the vision through their compassion and understanding towards each other.</li> <li>• Engaging and inclusive collective worship enables pupils to increase their knowledge of the Bible whilst benefiting from a variety of spiritual experiences.</li> <li>• Due to the well-planned religious education (RE) curriculum, pupils are developing their understanding of a range of world beliefs and views. The vision enables them to be curious and respectful when articulating their learning.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop an understanding of spirituality so that this can be expressed in the community , deeply enhancing the lives of all.</li> <li>• Increase opportunities for pupils to serve others and be agents of change, globally.</li> <li>• Deepen pupils' knowledge of world faiths and views, exploring the impact on believers' lives.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>West Meon Church of England Primary has a deeply rooted, inclusive vision. This is a small school with a big heart which cares deeply for all. The vision is lived out through the values of respect, courage and creativity which form a tight knit community. Leaders are committed to developing pupils to be confident, secure citizens whilst ensuring their overall success. Rigorous monitoring and evaluation leads to effective decisions, enabling all to live well. The vision inspires all adults to ensure pupils are the 'best they can be'. Leaders maintain strong links with the local church of St John, the Evangelist. This close bond is mutually supportive and enriches both the curriculum and</p>	

community events, such as harvest.

Leaders are responsive to the needs of a small school and evaluate the curriculum closely. Wise decision making ensures pupils are presented with inspiring, creative activities. Mixed-age classes mean pupils support each other whilst forming close relationships. It is clear they are aware of each others' needs by demonstrating compassion and kindness. Pupils share that the school 'feels like home'. Leaders identify disadvantage early, planning appropriate provision to ensure success. For example, the specialist emotional support on offer enables some pupils to gain confidence. This means all are loved for their uniqueness and flourish as a result. Close links with skilled members of the community provides opportunities for enrichment. Pupils benefit from regular art activities, speaking enthusiastically about their enjoyment of these. The school value of creativity is lived out as pupils engage with local events. For example, the West Meon remembrance trail. Wider opportunities for learning outdoors foster moments for spirituality. Visits to local spaces as part of the curriculum enrich the pupil's encounters with the created world. However, there is a developing understanding of spirituality for all.

Respectful relationships draw the school community together. Consequently, the behaviour of pupils is positive towards each other and adults. Leaders make wellbeing a priority, which enables all to feel cherished as individuals. Emotional support for those who require it is provided effectively. As a result, pupils develop the ability to manage their own emotions and flourish. Leaders are mindful of staff workload which means adults feel cared for. Parents comment that nurturing is a strength of the school. Consequently, some families travel into the village, selecting the school for its vision. Year 6 pupils are prepared for transition to secondary schools due to the nurturing vision. Older pupils live out the value of respect through the buddy system which supports the youngest pupils. This develops confidence particularly when young ones are settling into breakfast club.

The school benefits from positive partnerships within the local community. These contribute to the curriculum, enriching the experiences for pupils. Leaders benefit from wider opportunities through school networks and working with diocesan colleagues. Such partnerships enhance the continuous improvement of West Meon as a church school. Creative opportunities within the curriculum enable pupils to serve others. Harvest gifts are distributed locally, enforcing the value of respect. Pupils have a developing understanding of disadvantage in other parts of the world.

Collective worship is enhanced through effective partnerships within the diocese. Pupils respond to lively worship which encourages questioning and reflecting upon biblical stories. This increases pupils' knowledge of the Bible in meaningful ways. Singing is a valued and important part of gathering together. From a young age, pupils are taught the Lord's Prayer so that they can contribute if they wish. Collective worship is invitational which enables all to feel comfortable with expressing themselves in prayer or stillness. Reflection areas within classrooms offer opportunities for pupils to reflect during the school day. It is unclear as to what impact these have on the pupils. Collective worship draws the whole community together in challenging times. Acts of remembrance for a valued staff member provide all with opportunities to grieve whilst giving thanks for her life.

Careful planning within religious education (RE) provides moments to learn about a variety of world faiths and views. Effective implementation of the diocesan 'Living Difference IV' syllabus ensures pupils have access to a progressive curriculum. Pupils are inspired by the enquiry approach which enables them to think of their own questions. Rigorous monitoring by leaders checks understanding and encourages pupils to share learning. Pupils are able to express how practical activities deepen their understanding within RE. For example, making flatbreads enables one pupil to recall Jesus describing himself in the story of the last supper. Pupils are respectful when sharing their learning about a range of beliefs. There are limited opportunities for members from faith communities to share their beliefs and contribute to the curriculum. Effective professional development ensures



teachers feel confident to teach and assess RE. Pupils' responses and understanding of key concepts are gathered which informs future planning. Pupils are developing their knowledge of Christianity as a world faith. However, leaders are using their monitoring carefully to ensure they provide a curriculum to deepen this.

The strong sense of belonging within the school permeates into the wider community as a result of the vision. Leaders and adults serve their community with love and respect, enabling families to flourish. Pupils leave the school ready to experience their next phase of education showing respect for others and a sense of who they are.

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

Information			
Inspection date	27 September 2023	URN	116322
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	59
Diocese	Portsmouth and Winchester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Julie Kelly		
Chair	Alice Lister		
Inspector	Helen Crolla	No.	918