

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hindsford Church of England Primary School	
Address	Lodge Road, Atherton, Manchester, M46 9BL
School vision	
'For every child to reach their full potential and live life in all its fullness.' John 10:10	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision and values clearly shape the school community. As a result, empowered by faith, all strive to reach their potential and embrace the fullness of life. • The partnership with St John's Church is excellent. Inclusive opportunities to encounter God in shared acts of worship enriches the school, equipping all to talk about growing spiritually. • School leaders determinedly create a culture where all are treated well. The Christian vision underpins school development plans so that welfare and wellbeing of all is a priority. This is transforming lives. • Pupils and adults have a strong sense of responsibility towards others. Their experience of being known and loved inspires action towards social justice on a local and national level. • The high profile of religious education (RE) ensures it is carefully planned and offers an engaging curriculum. Pupils are enthusiastic about their learning and articulate its importance to them. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further embed the language of spirituality across the curriculum, and extra curricular opportunities. This is so that pupils are better able to recognise and explain their spiritual growth. • Extend work on social justice across the curriculum to incorporate a global view. This is to extend pupils' view of themselves, as global citizens who effect positive change in the world. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>The Christian vision at Hindsford Church of England Primary School is simple, yet profound. Built on school history, it encapsulates a continued desire for all to flourish. Biblical examples of people overcoming challenges by walking with God, inspire all to reach individual potential. Thankfulness for the world God has created, instils a desire to embrace life in its fullness. The aspiration for this vision to equip pupils for life beyond Hindsford is evident throughout all work undertaken. A past pupil testified to its lasting impact, 'here, I learned of my own innate value, learned to feel God's</p>	

love.’ Embodying the Christian values is key to each person reaching their potential. Living with integrity is important here. Pupils and adults alike seek to express the values in action. As a result, pupils are calm, polite and respectful. They are treated with dignity. In turn, they offer that dignity and respect to others, without discrimination. The inclusive nature of the school is striking. Opportunities to reflect when things go wrong ensure that through the Christian values, there is a fresh start for all.

Governors have a sound understanding of the school context and ownership of the Christian vision. They evaluate the impact of the vision through established good relationships, that challenge and encourage the school community. Termly governor days lead to change through listening to pupil voices. Examples range from introducing varying styles of worship to prioritising the impact of the Christian vision on the website. Link governors and committees offer rigorous scrutiny and pastoral care. As a result, the holistic offer and success of academic achievements is recognised. This allows expertise of staff to be utilised by others outside of the school.

Collective worship is central to school life. It sets the tone and calm atmosphere for the day. It offers space to make connections with others and the world with a language for all to talk about spirituality. This language is recently introduced but is having a significant impact on spiritual development across the school. Learning to reflect on themselves, others and the world is being woven into learning as well as worship. Opportunities to reflect extend throughout the internal school environment. These are increasingly meaningful for some pupils but as yet are underused. The pupil worship council offers a powerful voice for all to contribute to planning and leading worship. Pupils have a sense of pride in their involvement and enjoy helping peers to understand Christian values deeply. Worship is inclusive at Hindsford. The invitation to participate is readily accepted and accessible to all. Pupils are uninhibited in embracing joyful singing and making contributions. Careful planning by the headteacher, using knowledge of the school community, ensures the Christian faith is diverse and relevant. It is a time to connect with emotions and seek God’s guidance. Prayer is especially important. Pupils comment it, ‘potentially could save your life if you remember it in a dark place.’

The partnership with St John’s Church is exemplary. The clergy team are an integral and valued part of school life. Church and school seek to serve the local community and bring light. Worship in the school forest draws the community together and is transforming lives. Believing that ‘church’ is the people, not the building, those from other schools find a warm welcome too. Inspired to creatively encounter God, in all weathers, forest worship has established a strong sense of ownership. Parents and pupils alike speak passionately about acceptance here and the role of the clergy. Collaborative working with other local schools in events such as a Remembrance art exhibition, and carol services is impactful. Leaders create meaningful connections with other Church schools that encourages spiritual flourishing together.

The school’s Christian vision ensures that a culture of wellbeing underlies the physical structure of the building and the interactions within. Rooms such as The Ark – a shelter from the storm, and the Jigsaw room are vital. They offer space to be heard, be still, or be nurtured in the face of challenge. They are a reminder of the interdependence of the community, to flourish well together. Pupils openly talk of the impact of these. Space to manage their own feelings, they identify, leads to fulfilling potential. Wellbeing of adults and pupils is central to seeing the vision fulfilled. Leaders ensure that school planning and spending reflects this priority. Staff and parents express the culture as ‘being held’. This is important to all and creates a strong sense of belonging and individual care. Consequently, parents value that their child is truly known by the school. As a result, pupils are supported, happy to attend school and engage in learning. Early Risers club, emotional check in and a calm environment ensure that pupils are ready to learn. Staff also recognise they are valued. Opportunities for professional development, and personal care, ensures they are supported to reach their own potential.

A strong sense of responsibility towards others arises from the culture inside of the school. Pupils talk with pride about the responsibilities entrusted to them. Buddy systems for staff and pupils alike lay foundations of accountability for one another’s wellbeing. This, coupled with well-structured

personal development and enrichment activities, motivates all to look outward. As a result, the school community is committed to helping others live as full a life as possible. Resources such as Picture News, and increasing opportunities within learning, tackle issues and root causes of injustice. Opportunities such as eco warriors club effectively foster pupils' desire to work for change. Discovering people who uphold the Christian values inspires engagement with local and national charities. Whilst the school aspires to further develop global links, it is currently limited. Secure foundations of personal and local action provide a basis for pupils to further develop as active global citizens.

RE effectively expresses the Christian distinctiveness of Hindsford. Careful weaving of quality resources ensures learning meets the Church of England Statement of Entitlement for RE whilst upholding local authority requirements. As external guidance is updated, the school is aware of the need to ensure it accommodates this. Pupils enjoy their lessons. Visits and use of artefacts make lessons relevant and interesting. Pupils are keen to discuss learning in depth with good levels of religious literacy. They talk of how RE helps them realise their potential and know how God wants them to be. The breadth of learning about different religions and worldviews, including Christianity as a global faith is carefully planned. This results in pupils who appreciate diversity and difference. Collaborations with Manchester Diocese, Wigan RE hub and Atherton cluster of schools equip Hindsford to deliver quality provision in RE.

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

Information			
Inspection date	15 November 2023	URN	106441
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	203
Diocese	Manchester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Elaine Holden		
Chair	Andrew Morris		
Inspector	Jen McIlveen	No.	2242