



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

The Littletons Church of England Academy	
Address	Farm Lane, South Littleton, Evesham, WR11 8TL
School vision	
<p>Just as God has created every individual with unique talents and skills, our school community provides a nurturing and inclusive environment, where everyone is encouraged to explore their individual creativity and to confidently use their talents in order to achieve their God given potential and to make the world a better place.</p> <p>‘God has given you gifts. Use them well to serve one another.’ Peter 4:10</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision has a profound impact on the school community. The culture of nurture enables pupils and adults to explore their unique talents and flourish in their lives and learning. • There is inclusive and nurturing support for more vulnerable pupils. Highly effective provision overcomes barriers to some pupils’ learning. Leaders and staff provide outstanding support for language development, which is essential to access the wider curriculum. • Collective worship faithfully reflects the Christian foundation of the school. Time for worship and reflection frame the daily life of the school and bind the community together, creating a powerful sense of belonging. • Partnerships with the church, families, the Diocese and the Diocese of Worcester Multi-academy Trust (MAT) are respectful and supportive. The school is blessed in the dedication and commitment of governors and volunteers from the parish church and local community. • Religious education (RE) gives pupils a secure knowledge of a range of religions and worldviews. The subject helps pupils to be aware of diversity in our modern society and within some faith traditions. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend the shared language and understanding of spirituality so that all ages more confidently express their spiritual growth. • Consider ways for pupils to explore global issues so that they may effect positive change beyond the local area. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>To the great credit of school, diocese and MAT leaders, The Littletons has a renewed energy and confidence. The reinvigorated Christian vision makes a difference to pupils and adults alike. With new leadership structures, and deep connectivity with the MAT, The Littletons fizzes with a zest for life and learning. After a period of transition, the new leadership team works with one heart and mind to ensure the vision is driving the school. As a result, the words of the vision and its Bible</p>	

inspiration are very well known and understood across the school community. Families fully embrace and support the vision and cherished values. The school is characterised by humility and 'servant leadership', following the example of Jesus. Here, as one person commented, 'love for others doesn't run out'.

Staff foster a love of learning through an appropriate focus on basic communication and language skills. They gently encourage pupils to grow in confidence. Those who experience barriers to their learning are sensitively upheld to make progress against their individual goals. Creativity is integral in the curriculum. Pupils enjoy lessons where they are challenged to think and respond to 'big questions'. Leaders foster staff by encouraging them to harness their own gifts and interests. In this way, pupils benefit from a wide range of expertise within the staff team, notably in the beautiful artwork that celebrates talented pupils and teachers. Pupils with additional needs are fully integrated into the curriculum. Leaders make ethical decisions to target funds where they make a difference to pupils' and families' lives. For example, offering an inclusive 'Pudsey ramble' with optional donations so that families are not under any obligation to make a donation.

Leaders work with MAT colleagues to consider and reflect on the progress of the school as a Church school. It is commendable that systems to capture the impact of the vision, RE and worship are established features of monitoring and so support improvement plans.

Pupils have a keen social conscience. They are passionate voices against injustice and deprivation. In this way, they reflect the vision of cherishing each individual. The school council supports several charitable campaigns. Currently, such action to effect positive change is confined to more local causes. Pupils are less aware of how they might make a difference to more widespread and global issues of concern. Nevertheless, they display compassion for each other, as do staff when they know that someone is going through darker days.

Collective worship creates a strong sense of unity within the school. Recent improvement to its structure and links to the vision mean that worship is valued. Members of staff find worship comforting and sometimes inspirational. Leaders work with another MAT school and diocesan advisers to ensure that worship is inclusive and honours the Christian traditions of the school. Leaders acknowledge that this work remains ongoing. Worship has an established rhythm. It is consistently Bible-based and so gives pupils a wealth of knowledge of Christian teaching. Prayer or reflection are integral to worship, so that the daily gathering supports spiritual nourishment. The 'Open the Book' parish team provide engaging recounts of Bible stories. Pupils look forward to these and consider the team part of their school. As one said on meeting an Open the Book member, 'There's Goliath!'

Leaders are in the process of developing a shared understanding of spirituality. They are ambitious that this should enhance curriculum plans as well as collective worship. At this stage, pupils and adults are less confident to talk of experiences that lead to spiritual growth. However, the seeds of a common understanding of spirituality are planted. Pupils know that they are cherished and that God may help them to be a better person. Each knows they have intrinsic worth, gifts and the power to make a difference to others. As such, a sense of spiritual awareness is blossoming.

Partnerships with the parish church are exceptionally strong. Many governors, past and present, serve as volunteers in practical ways, for example helping with educational visits. It is clear that these members of the community gain much from their engagement with pupils and staff. In this way, the commitment to make the world a better place is seen. A mutual appreciation and enrichment is the result of these wonderfully affectionate and compassionate relationships. As Peter found in following Christ, everyone matters to Jesus. As one leader commented, 'Children need to see that people are not perfect and, like Peter, can change'. The very new incumbent is already

engaging with school leaders and becoming known to pupils and staff. She is, rightly, already able to comment ‘that Christian beliefs underpin all the school does’.

Pupils are genuinely interested in RE. The subject inspires them to look beyond their own experiences. Work in books is of a high quality and reflects the commitment that everyone flourishes as a unique individual. Pupils convey a depth of knowledge and understanding of the topics studied. As such, RE gives them a window onto the world and supports their appreciation of global diversity. The use of ‘I wonder?’ boards in classrooms encourages pupils to explore their own thoughts on life, beliefs and faith. Above all, RE lessons ensure that pupils are respectful of the various traditions of religions, for example, knowing that Torah scrolls are so sacred they must only ever be handwritten.

The inspection findings indicate that The Littletons Church of England First School (Academy) is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	24 November 2023	URN	143816
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	130
Diocese	Worcester		
MAT/Federation	Diocese of Worcester Multi Academy Trust		
Headteacher	Paul Jones		
Chair	Cath Gittins		
Inspector	Allyson Taylor	No.	768