



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

Upton Snodsbury Church of England VC First School	
Address	School Lane, Upton Snodsbury, Worcester, WR7 4NH

School vision
<p>Where a Love of Learning Grows. 'And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.' (Colossians 3:14)</p> <p>We aim to develop our school community to their fullest potential in a Christian, caring, inclusive and safe environment. Everyone is nurtured as an individual child of God and encouraged to instil a love of learning that will always grow inside them.</p>
School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Christian vision is driving the school's actions. Leaders know their school well and monitor the impact of the vision which leads to improvements. This enables all to develop to their full potential.</li> <li>• Leaders have established a clear vision rooted in biblical narrative that is enabling all to live well together in a caring and nurturing community. Pupils have begun to live out the school's values by taking action in their local communities.</li> <li>• Collective worship is central to the life of the school and is giving pupils opportunities to grow spiritually through times of deep reflection.</li> <li>• Leaders have ensured that the provision of religious education (RE) is high profile. The curriculum is well-sequenced and provides challenge. Leaders support staff by providing opportunities to develop their knowledge and skills through continuing professional development.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embed the shared language of spirituality to further support the spiritual development of pupils and adults.</li> <li>• Consider the progressive development of analytical skills in RE so that pupils confidently apply them in their learning.</li> <li>• Encourage pupils to think widely and deeply about injustice so that they begin to question injustice and inequalities globally.</li> </ul>
Inspection findings
<p>Leaders are creating a caring and nurturing environment where all feel valued. The love of learning and the love shown to others permeates through the school. The values of respect, responsibility, friendship, forgiveness, trust and thankfulness are lived out through the daily interactions with each other. Pupils' wellbeing is paramount and they know that their voice is important and will be heard. The Christian vision drives the behaviour policy and pupils are rewarded for demonstrating the</p>

school's values. Pupils are growing into caring and compassionate members of society. The team spirit among the staff is strong and this enables them to support each other at all times. Leaders employ creative ways to support the wellbeing of staff.

Leaders strategically monitor the vision through the school development plan both formally and informally. Audits are carried out in many different aspects of school life and leaders then use this information to make changes. Decisions made are driven by the vision as there is a relentless focus on a love of learning and love for others. Governors are valued members of the community offering support and challenge. They are enthusiastic, and committed to making improvements. Regular governor monitoring enables them to know the school well. They have the vision at the heart of their decision making.

The school's Christian vision shapes a curriculum inspired by a recognition that all pupils are individual children of God. Pupils develop a love of learning and love for others through an exciting curriculum and extra-curricular activities. Leaders have high expectations for their pupils and enthusiastically explore ways to make learning fun. Pupils enjoy their learning and talk eagerly about school trips and enrichment activities. Leaders are continually looking at how the pupils can learn about the diverse society in which they live. Exploring diversity within the curriculum is enabling the pupils to become respectful and tolerant of others with different views. They understand that they can disagree respectfully and that they should listen to what other people have to say. Leaders talk passionately about inclusivity and strategies are in place to support the most vulnerable and pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND). Developing a love of learning extends to the adults in school. Staff are valued and supported in their own learning journey. They have the opportunity to attend a wide range of professional development opportunities. This gives the staff the support they need to carry out their many different roles.

Leaders have worked with governors and pupils to define their understanding of spirituality. They support staff in their understanding by mapping out opportunities across the curriculum. Leaders understand the role they play in helping pupils to grow spiritually. The reflective areas around the school give the pupils opportunity to be quiet and reflect.

The Diocese of Worcester has supported the school in developing effective collective worship. This has led to inclusive collective worship that expresses the school's Christian vision through a focus on the teachings of Jesus. The planned worship enables pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer and reflection. The Anglican foundation of the school shapes collective worship. Leaders use a clear structure when planning worship, this supports the spiritual development of pupils and adults. Everyone appreciates the time worship gives them to pause and reflect. Pupils understand how the values link to the Christian vision and how they teach them to be kind and respectful of others. Collective worship inspires pupils to act with compassion and kindness towards others in their community.

The partnership with the local church enhances collective worship in school. The pupils enjoy worshipping in church each week when it is led by The 'Open the Book Team.' Christian festivals are celebrated in church by the school throughout the year and these services are valued by all members of the school community. The newly formed pupil worship team have been trained to lead worship and they have begun to plan and lead worship in church. This is beginning to develop confident, enthusiastic and thoughtful leaders. There is effective monitoring of worship by governors, staff and pupils.

Pupils and their families have been involved in fundraising activities for the homeless in Worcester and the Air Ambulance. A meaningful partnership has developed with a school in Zimbabwe in order to develop pupils' understanding of how the vision extends beyond the school. Pupils learn that they

can have a positive impact on the lives of others and have begun to think about this globally with adult support.

The RE curriculum develops pupils' understanding of different beliefs and cultures. The statutory syllabus for RE together with an RE resource called 'Understanding Christianity' are used to plan a well sequenced programme of study. The systematic mapping of skills in RE is not yet fully developed. Pupils enjoy learning about religions and worldwide views. The subject is enriched by visits to places of worship. The vocabulary and work displayed in each class, enhances the pupils' understanding of the unit of work taught. Pupils feel safe and secure in expressing their opinions in RE and recognise their opinions may differ from others. Continuing professional development in RE is high priority, staff are well supported by the RE leads.

Upton Snodsbury Church of England First School is a place 'where the love of learning grows.' This caring, inclusive and nurturing school is enabling all to flourish.

The inspection findings indicate that Upton Snodsbury Church of England VC First School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	19 October 2023	URN	116854
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	45
Diocese	Worcester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Rachel Mayo		
Chair	Elizabeth Hocking		
Inspector	Judith Manns	No.	2240