



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

Ettington Church of England Primary School	
Address	Churchill Close, Ettington, Stratford upon Avon, CV37 7SP

School vision
<p style="text-align: center;">‘Learning for fullness of life’ John 10:10 Love Respect Trust</p> <p>The story of the creation is the bedrock for the vision. Building on theological concepts that God created the earth and everything in it, we provide opportunities to appreciate God’s creation of the world and how everyone was made in God’s image (Imago Dei) loved, valued, celebrated and represented. As a school we aspire to live out God’s plan for all to flourish.</p>
School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inspired by the Christian vision, leaders at all levels, have ensured that the vision and values are understood. They are lived out in the daily life of the school. This enables all to blossom and flourish. Led by their conviction leaders are resolute in driving forward the work of the school.</li> <li>• The Christian vision shapes the inspirational and ambitious curriculum built on global perspectives. Pupils embrace all that the school offers. As a result, pupils flourish exceptionally well in their learning, personal and spiritual development.</li> <li>• Collective worship is a daily highlight creating a strong sense of a unified worshipping community. It is central to the life of the school enabling pupils to understand the significance of the vision and values in daily life.</li> <li>• A strong culture of love, respect and trust between all members of the school community enables everyone to live well together.</li> <li>• Religious education (RE) has high priority in the school. Pupils value and enjoy RE lessons. They comprehensively deepen their understanding of Christianity as a worldwide faith and other world views.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support pupils in taking ownership of positive social action which will enable them to become independent changemakers and champions of social justice.</li> <li>• Build on and widen the expertise of governors in monitoring the impact of RE on pupils' learning and collective worship on the pupils' lives.</li> </ul>
Inspection findings
<p>Determined leaders bring dedication and energy to make certain the vision is lived out in school. They unswervingly ensure everyone is valued, included and given the opportunity to excel. Leaders have rekindled the profile of the school’s church foundation by repositioning collective worship as central to school life. The Christian vision and values are deeply connected and threaded through the work of the school. In this highly inclusive environment, everyone is well supported and nurtured. Strong trusting and caring relationships are central to this. Restorative behaviour</p>

practices allow all to show respect. Pupils and adults treat each other with dignity. In this nurturing school everyone feels loved and cared for. At the heart of this is the clearly expressed vision and carefully selected values of love, respect and trust. Through their commitment leaders ensure all opportunities to grow and flourish are taken. Leaders make courageous financial decisions. Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), receive highly personalised learning experiences to meet their diverse needs. The school supports vulnerable pupils enabling them to feel safe and valued. Adults feel valued and well supported increasing their confidence and skills. Committed governors embrace the vision driving their strategic decision making. Governors undertake monitoring of RE and worship. They are less experienced in understanding the monitoring evidence about worship on pupils' lives or the quality of RE learning. Staff create trusting relations with parents involving them in their child's learning. Parents value this unified, inclusive school in whom they have complete trust. A refreshed partnership between the new vicar and the school is beginning to grow with opportunities for deepening community connectedness.

A thoughtfully crafted curriculum is rooted in the belief that God's plan is for everyone to flourish. Its design provides for all learners to develop, recognise their gifts and embrace fulsome learning. An older pupil described flourishing as, 'growing wings, spreading and expanding knowledge, learning new things and flying better'. Pupils are enthusiastic about school life. The wider curriculum includes music, sport, gardening and outdoor learning enabling pupils to gain a sense of self-worth. The vision facilitates and contributes well to pupils' spiritual development. A year 6 pupil describes spirituality as 'the spark the world has chosen for you'.

As a largely monocultural school, there is an emphasis on widening pupils' understanding of diversity. This is based on the belief that everyone is made in God's image. This is reflected in text choice such as 'No outsiders in our school'. Encouraging a sense of belonging to a wider community and planned opportunities for spiritual development are strong threads throughout the curriculum. Looking after God's world is a key driver in shaping the curriculum. The school received the 'Green Flag' award for environmental actions. Pupils explore themes of responsibility and justice such in the text 'Suffragettes', and in the work of Gandhi and Greta Thunberg. Older pupils talk knowingly about celebrating differences where everyone is unique and has a place in the world. Trying your best to be a good friend and form positive relationships is also firmly expressed by pupils.

Worship is intrinsic to the life of the school. It provides a rich source of opportunities for all to be still, reflect or pray. It contributes well to the development of pupils' personal spirituality. Pupils talk with enthusiasm about learning from Bible stories. They match them to school values and their daily lives. Adults value worship and recognise the contribution to their own spirituality. It's an opportunity to 'look inside and see who I am' and 'be part of something bigger'. During worship staff sensitively support those pupils who need reassurance. The invitation for families to join the 'celebration' worship gives a powerful sense of togetherness. Opportunities for prayer and reflection are frequent throughout the day keeping the vision alive in hearts and minds. The impact of collective worship on the school community is profound. It is integral to the exploration of the school's vision.

Pupils positively engage in social action. Their understanding of the causes they support and the impact of social action on others is in the early stages of development. Ethical choices such as wanting to make the school 'plastic free,' reduce food waste and save water have been identified. Pupils rightly feel strongly that we need to 'look after the planet'. These initiatives support their understanding of global challenges such as climate change and the protection of endangered animals. This promotes an understanding of justice and responsibility. Curriculum resources are used to explore local, national and global issues. Pupils are less aware of how they can act independently to challenge injustice and be change makers.

The school's RE curriculum is effective. Leaders ensure it has a high priority and profile. It meets the needs of all pupils including those with SEND. The effective RE leader shares good practice and leads professional development increasing teachers confidence and expertise. This makes a positive impact on pupils' learning. The curriculum is well sequenced and balanced where learning is frequently revisited and progressively built on. Age-appropriate enquiry skills are incorporated into the curriculum where pupils ask and answer 'big questions' using Bible stories to illustrate ideas. Younger pupils talk explain that Joseph forgave his brothers even though they betrayed him. Older pupils suggest God's wisdom is seen in sending Jesus who loves us. Pupils understand the importance of being able to reflect on their own opinion and those of others. They learn about about Christianity as a global religion as in Nigeria as well as range of other religions and world views. This enriches their understanding of difference and helps them to respect other faiths and cultures. Pupils talk thoughtfully about world views recognising the importance of belief and how this shapes lives. A supportive partnership with the diocese provides effective training. RE lessons provide a safe place for pupils to express their opinions. Therefore, they demonstrate deep thinking and write inspirational spiritual reflections.

This small but outward looking school is infused with its Christian vision inspired learning for fullness of life. This has generated a community that serves all with love, respect and trust creating an exceptional place of learning.

The inspection findings indicate that Ettington VC Primary School is living up to its foundation as a church school.

Information			
Inspection date	30 November 2023	URN	125631
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	185
Diocese	Coventry		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Michelle Crowe		
Chair	Yolanda Franklin		
Inspector	Sally Kaminski-Gaze	No.	2238