

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Rimrose Hope Church of England Primary School	
Address	Sandy Road, Seaforth, Liverpool, L21 1AD
School vision	
<p>Faith in our children – the Hope for the future. “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” John - 1:5</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision clearly underpins the work of school leaders. ‘Faith in our children – the Hope for the future’ inspires and guides decisions, creating a culture of care for all, where everyone is valued. • Spiritual development is driven by the vision. As a major element of the school, discussion and questioning are used skilfully to develop pupils’ understanding. • Collective worship is fundamental to the Christian ethos of the school. It expresses the vision and impacts deeply on the spiritual lives of pupils and adults. • The vision of hope for the future inspires the inclusive culture, enabling everyone to belong and flourish. Differences are respected and celebrated, giving pupils confidence and a sense of wellbeing to thrive. • Religious education (RE) is well-led and managed. RE is a safe place for thinking and reflecting on the big questions in life. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further refine systems of governors’ monitoring in order to measure the impact of the vision across the curriculum. • Enhance the opportunities to develop pupils’ vocabulary of world faiths in RE. This is so that pupils are able to express their understanding of a range of world religions and world views. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>At Rimrose Hope, the Christian vision of ‘Faith in our children – the Hope for the future’ serves as a powerful catalyst for the flourishing of individuals. Leaders constantly return to the Christian vision, using it to shape their decisions and the strategic direction of the school. It is brought to life through inclusive provision. This creates an environment where every individual, regardless of background or ability, can actively participate and achieve. By instilling a sense of purpose and ambition, staff equip pupils to realise their potential and foster a hopeful outlook on their future. The leadership team plays a crucial role in driving the vision forward. Their united and ambitious approach is characterised by high expectations and open dialogue. This ensures a shared commitment to achievement, enjoyment and enrichment for all pupils. Governors understand and are fully committed to the Christian vision of the school. However, current monitoring does not evaluate its impact on the curriculum.</p>	



The curriculum of the school is carefully designed to reflect and embrace the Christian vision. Leaders have developed a curriculum that is sequenced, broad and ambitious. This reflects the Christian vision by providing rich and memorable learning experiences. The curriculum is sequenced so that lessons align with the idea of a journey in life. Leaders explain this as mirroring the Christian faith as a lifelong journey. The curriculum provides a rich variety of opportunities for spiritual development. This encourages pupils to make connections between self, others, the world, and God. This is achieved by developing an understanding of spirituality and encouraging qualities such as curiosity, resilience, and reflection. Using street names based on Christian values, such as Hope Street and Service Drive, the layout of the school is a map for spiritual development. This creative approach is based on reflection and self-awareness. Through this, pupils address challenging questions, often making vows of action that they can achieve. This reflects the Christian emphasis on virtues and values, encouraging pupils to embody these principles in their lives. Inspired by the school's vision, the staff have high expectations for all pupils, along with an inclusive approach to achievement. They talk about how, irrespective of their circumstances, their pupils are carriers of hope with high aspirations for the future.

Collective worship plays a pivotal role in fostering spiritual growth. It serves as an inclusive, safe space for pupils and adults to explore their own spirituality, regardless of background or beliefs. Inspired by the Christian vision, the four-stage structure of gathering, engaging, reflecting and responding helps pupils to take part in prayer and stillness. Involvement of pupils as 'Worship Warriors' in planning, leading and evaluating worship is a key aspect. This enables them to thoughtfully explore the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. During worship, pupils lead others in connecting aspects of faith to their own lives. When worship happens in the classrooms, staff create a spiritual atmosphere. This marking of a special time for worship is achieved with inspirational music and the lighting of candles. The use of Christian practices, with set openings and dismissals, reinforces the significance of worship wherever it takes place. As a result of all this, pupils' and adults' spiritual growth is flourishing. Staff training on collective worship has increased confidence, contributing to the calm engagement across the school.

The Christian vision of the school creates a culture in which both pupils and adults are treated well. The commitment to nurture the light shining in everyone guides leaders to foster this inclusive environment. This includes welcoming vulnerable pupils and their families. Having a mental health practitioner, counsellor and an experienced pastoral team regularly in school, emphasises the commitment to wellbeing. This also includes a daily mood tracker app for pupils, enabling timely referrals for mental health support. The Christian vision inspires the school's approach to valuing and encouraging each pupil to develop their unique strengths. This extends beyond academic achievements to include drama, art, music and sports, recognising and nurturing individual talents and gifts. Leaders recognise the importance of building resilience in pupils and staff. This is achieved by creating a caring and loving school community, where individuals feel part of a larger 'Rimrose family'.

Leaders actively cultivate a culture of equality and fairness through various initiatives and partnerships inspired by the Christian vision. This commitment creates a foundation for a just and responsible culture where pupils are encouraged to try their best. As part of this, pupils learn the value of respect and co-operation. They have polite attitudes towards each other and staff. As a result, the school is a calm, nurturing environment. Pupils work towards a variety of awards by completing tasks based on Christian values. These awards are worn with pride on their neckerchiefs. The school actively listens to its pupils, giving them a strong voice in various ways. Subject ambassador groups provide a platform for pupils to express their views and take action. This can be seen in school where pupils engage in discussions with school council members to make a positive difference. This led to wellbeing projects and play leaders being introduced during break times.

Beyond school, the school's commitment to environmental initiatives has also had an impact. Led by the Planet Protector group, pupils work with the community to keep the local neighbourhood clean. Caring for the environment 'as stewards of God's earth' reflects the pupils' understanding of responsibility and care for the world. The school recognises the importance of parental support in achieving success. Actively involving parents ensures a collaborative approach to instilling values of justice and responsibility in pupils. As a result, leaders have a community that works together to support the development of positive values.

The RE curriculum effectively aligns with the Christian vision and values of the school. The local syllabus is enhanced with resources that develop pupils' own thinking and their understanding of Christianity. The curriculum encourages positive attitudes, understanding and tolerance by exploring big questions about life and beliefs. Pupils have a sound understanding of world religions and worldviews and are able to talk confidently about Christian concepts. However, pupils have limited vocabulary to use when talking about a range of world religions. The school successfully works closely with the diocese. Leaders contribute by providing valued professional development for staff new to church schools and sharing expertise with other schools. This effective partnership also provides inspiring support for the school's spiritual journey.

The inspection findings indicate that the Rimrose Hope Church of England school is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	13 December 2023	URN	134371
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	328
Diocese	Liverpool		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Lawrence Crilly		
Chair	Paul Cummins		
Inspector	Rob Dean	No.	2129