



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Mundy Church of England Junior School	
Address	Lockton Avenue, Heanor, DE75 7EQ

School vision

‘Let love and kindness be the motivation behind all that you do.’ 1 Corinthians 16:14

Whole-heartedly embrace the ethos of our school through the consistent modelling and promotion of our Christian Values through our embedded ‘Be’ Statements. Be Respectful! Be Polite!

Provide a safe, happy, nurturing educational ‘home’ and approach to continuously protect, support, and nourish the children in our care. Be Happy! Be Safe! Be Caring!

Enhance every opportunity for each child by rigorous communication, robust protocols, and the effective removal of barriers. Be Trustworthy! Be Proud! Be Responsible!

School strengths

- The school’s Christian vision, ‘Let love and kindness be the motivation behind all that you do’, results in a deeply welcoming school. It is central to all aspects of school life. The vision is the driving force that enables pupils and adults to flourish in an atmosphere of warmth and respect. Here, all are highly valued, loved and supported to succeed as individuals.
- Committed leaders know and understand the community the school serves. They work hard to ensure that pupils and their families are nurtured and supported. The school is a beacon of light to the local community in helping to support pupils considered vulnerable and their families, allowing them to flourish. Honest and respectful relationships are rooted in love.
- Pupils flourish by taking advantage of the many leadership opportunities offered to them. They appreciate that school leaders pay genuine attention to their voice. As a result of this, pupils’ behaviour and attitudes are exemplary.
- Engaging, varied, interactive and inclusive collective worship enhances the life of the school. It is enriched by worship being led by regular visitors. Collective worship has significant impact on pupils and strongly supports their understanding of Christian values. It inspires pupils to live out the school’s vision by providing strong values for life.
- The religious education (RE) curriculum is challenging and exciting. It is carefully planned to enable pupils to experience a rich diversity of knowledge. Pupils respond thoughtfully and respectfully to a wide range of challenging questions about their learning in RE.

Areas for development

- Further extend the strong relationship with the local church to immerse the school's Christian vision in the community. This is to support all to benefit spiritually from the partnership.
- Strengthen the monitoring of the school's Christian distinctiveness to enable pupils to contribute even further in enhancing the impact of this as a Church school.

Inspection findings

The distinctive Christian vision of Mundy Church of England Junior School permeates all aspects of school life. This creates a safety net of love. Every person in this well-respected school is genuinely cared for. As a result, all feel valued. Pupils are proud of their 'be statements'. These 'child friendly' versions of the vision and values enhance their understanding of biblical roots of the Christian vision. They talk enthusiastically about the difference these make to their lives both in and out of school. One pupil commented that 'the be statements are for life, not just for school.' Parents also agree that they have a positive impact on their lives at home.

Leaders are fully committed to the vision. This makes a positive difference to the lives of all adults and pupils. Leaders, including governors accurately evaluate the effectiveness of the school as a Church school. Opportunities to enhance leaders' monitoring of this as a Church school through extending pupil involvement in this is less developed. The whole community are fully involved in supporting the school's vision and values. They have accurately identified the part they play in helping the pupils of the school flourish.

Ambitious governors make strategic, and sometimes difficult, decisions to benefit the school. Guided by the vision, all are considered under an 'umbrella of love.' Staff and pupils have a strong understanding of how to live out the school's vision. Parents offer numerous examples of how love and care enfold everyone at the school. One parent stated that 'the school is full of love and is just like a close-knit family.' This results in strong relationships between staff, parents and pupils. The Christian vision supports all within the school, including during difficult times. This brings the whole school community even closer. The love felt is palpable. Relationships between the church and school leaders embody the culture of care and nurture which is central to the vision.

Mundy Junior school has both a strong commitment to, and is also central to, the local community it serves. Pupils engage in activities such as planting the flower beds in the market place and organising the town's horticultural show. Inspired by the school's vision, they are keen to demonstrate their love for others. Pupils glow with pride about their local community. Through visits to the local care home, pupils reciprocate the love shown to them. They demonstrate responsibility, warmth and care towards others.

Living out the vision, leaders and staff are relentless in their ambition and support for all. Each child is seen as being unique and of immense value. Consequently, pupils of all abilities and backgrounds thrive. Those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) prosper as every pupil is known, loved and accepted for who they are. Their talents are celebrated, enhancing pupils' sense of purpose. Attitudes to each other and behaviour are exemplary, within a calm and purposeful learning environment.

Pupils prosper through the varied leadership roles which are available such as 'minister', 'prime minister', 'bees' and 'RE ambassadors.' They value these opportunities and talk about their impact with huge pride. This gives pupils the confidence to make suggestions to leaders about the difference taking action can make. Their sense of responsibility to others encourages pupils to talk about possible solutions to issues they see. They feel their voice is heard. They are empowered to find ways to make a difference. Pupils see the impact of social action in their locality and are keen to develop this further with global issues. Their actions are an example of the school's vision lived out and benefiting the lives of others.

Leaders and staff have a shared understanding of what spirituality is. Opportunities for spiritual development are planned into the curriculum. Pupils talk about experiences which have provided

‘awe and wonder’ for them and know that this can change how they think about something. The curriculum produces pupils who are curious and enquiring. Carefully planned activities through the curriculum enable pupils to grow and develop well. There are a notable number of enrichment opportunities for all pupils. As a result, those pupils considered vulnerable or disadvantaged experience a variety of interests which impacts them positively. Parents value the range, and provision, of extra-curricular activities. This is due to the impact they have on the emotional flourishing and happiness of their children.

Shaped by the vision, collective worship is a treasured time for staff and pupils to join as a community. It is carefully planned and clear that it is welcoming and for all. Spending time together in worship enhances pupils’ spiritual development, providing a sense of fellowship and shared purpose. ‘Valley Cids’ regularly lead worship and pupils say this helps them to reflect on biblical stories. A wide range of other visitors support pupils to understand the relevance of their values within their own lives. Pupils and adults appreciate these sessions and leaders are enthusiastic in planning for the continued development of these beneficial partnerships. There are well-established links with the local church. Leaders are keen to further develop these as well as to enhance the Anglican tradition of the school. Parents value times when the whole school community come together for worship. The opportunity to pray is an important part of worship. Pupils enjoy writing prayers which helps them to reflect and feel a sense of peacefulness. Prayer and reflection spaces are provided around school. These offer pupils valued times to be still and think quietly to themselves. They help to contribute towards the spiritual flourishing of pupils.

The school’s vision drives the RE curriculum. It enables opportunities to develop pupils' understanding of a range of worldviews and faiths, including Christianity. The enthusiastic RE subject leader shares good practice, nurtures staff well and raises their knowledge and confidence. Leaders value the strong partnership with, and support from, the diocese. The carefully planned RE curriculum is highly creative with a reflective approach. During lessons, pupils think deeply and critically, exploring the views and beliefs of others. The use of ‘floor books’ to record work allows pupils of all abilities time to discuss and review, making learning very meaningful. RE is a valued subject exemplified by the wide-ranging content in these books which are often shared with other schools. These show the impact of the curriculum in the breadth and depth of understanding pupils accurately demonstrate. Pupils readily speak about their enjoyment of RE and display clear and confident knowledge of a range of worldviews and faiths, including Christianity.

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

Information			
Inspection date	18 January 2024	URN	112829
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	194
Diocese	Derby		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Dorothy Adair		
Chair	Anne Musson		
Inspector	Jane Davis	No.	2210