

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Parish Church of England Primary School	
Address	London Lane, Bromley, BR1 4HF
School vision	
<p>Building Learning, Friendship & Faith</p> <p>Ephesians 2:10 – “ For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision is subtle but lived out through the life of the school and its community. Leaders understand Parish Primary’s context, facilitating academic and pastoral opportunities for all to thrive. • The vision is exemplified by rich learning experiences that build on previous learning, extend understanding and challenge preconceptions. Layers of governance champion pupils’ progress. • Pupils, staff and families care deeply about one another. There is genuine compassion shown between all. Friendships are built and valued. • Building faith is an intrinsic part of worship within school. All are invited to consider the life and teachings of Jesus, reflecting on its application to their lives. • Religious education (RE) offers well-sequenced opportunities for pupils to consider faith and its impact upon believers. Diversity and difference are treasured. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use pupils’ existing experience of local action to engage with broader issues of social injustice. This is to enable all to make a difference beyond the local community. • Increase pupil leadership throughout collective worship. This is to enhance engagement and to build further peer mentoring across phases. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>Parish Primary’s Christian vision is a subtle heartbeat that gently shapes and directs the school’s nurturing ethos. It is underpinned by a verse from Paul’s letter to the Ephesians. Pupils and staff articulate how this shows they are part of the school community and have a purpose. The vision is expressed through high expectations, caring relationships and a curiosity to grow in faith. It links closely with the ‘Fruits of the Spirit’ as examples of how pupils and staff thrive. Leaders regularly reflect on the school’s vision to ensure its continuing relevance for all. Pupils talk confidently about how their actions demonstrate these fruits ‘when we show someone love and kindness’. Parents and carers express their love for the school and the support they have received. Dedicated, committed and driven leaders at all levels model compassion toward one another.</p> <p>Parish Primary offers pupils safe spaces to ask questions and build on their understanding. Leaders</p>	

have developed teaching opportunities that make clear links between all subjects and, in line with the vision, builds learning. The school's Aquinas Advisory Council (AAC), along with The Aquinas Trust, effectively provide strategic oversight and governance. AAC members understand the school's foundation and how these guide leaders' actions. The Trust's Christian vision 'Life – Transforming – Learning' aligns well with the school. It also provides an additional layer of challenge to ensure the lives of pupils and staff are indeed transformed. Leaders regularly review teaching and learning to maintain high standards and expectations for pupils. This results in a consistent positive attitude towards learning across all age groups. School, AAC and trust leaders regularly monitor pupils' progress through regular, thorough learning walks and monitoring meetings. This ensures the vision remains relevant to the school's context, shaping continual development. This results in consistent leaders' focus on achieving best outcomes for all. AAC visit reports show the positive impact of trust, local and diocesan training. AAC members are equipped to assess opportunities and wider provision to ensure maximum impact.

Pupils exemplify Parish Primary's vision and speak positively about how the fruits of the spirit guide their wisdom and understanding. They recognise the importance of school being 'more than just for learning, but to make friends and grow in faith'. Worship is valued by all. Pupils learn about God, Jesus, values, morals and biblical stories. Worship is planned well and is supported by clergy in partnership from two local churches. Pupils make clear links between different stories, bible teaching and the fruits of the spirit. Pupils and staff engage with worship joyfully, especially singing. Leaders are mindful of pupils' different faiths and as such, collective worship is intentionally engaging and inclusive. Key Christian values are celebrated, allowing pupils to express their true selves. Everyone is invited to partake and many frequently volunteer. Each class regularly shares their learning through worship time. Pupils are keen to plan and lead acts of worship for the whole school. Pupils value friendship and being role models, expressing a desire to support younger classes to learn about faith. Pupils value collective worship as a spiritual time and a 'moment of peace and calm'. Spirituality and philosophy are threaded throughout the curriculum, gently offering space to explore beliefs and ideas. Pupils clearly gain considerable understanding about the value of faith.

Pupils model compassion towards others, speaking knowledgeably about the freedoms they enjoy and where these might be limited elsewhere. They identify key figures from history who have 'spoken for those who can't' to make a difference in the world. The school recognises and responds compassionately to local issues of challenge. Staff and pupils collect food and clothing to donate to local charities, as well as the school's 'Hub'. They speak proudly of various successful fund-raising activities completed individually, in groups and school-wide. Parish Primary fosters links with schools across the world, enabling pupils to understand issues beyond the local community. They are 'inspired to help others' and 'encouraged to change the world'. Championing safety for local residents, the school successfully challenged the local authority to install safety features at a nearby busy road. Pupils understand and articulate some of the process of enacting change. However, only a small group are currently involved in community-based outreach activities. Pupils are keen to engage further with social projects.

RE is taught well across the school. Teachers take advantage of comprehensive resources and relevant training, meaning lessons are purposeful and engaging. Pupils benefit from a wide range of topics and learning approaches in lessons. Pupils are able to discuss and disagree well. Pupils model tolerance and kindness throughout their discussions. Pupils of different faiths are proud to share aspects of their religion with others and are attentively listened to. RE is well sequenced and balanced, reflecting both the vision and the school context. The trust-wide syllabus facilitates sharing of resources and knowledge, which positively impacts pupils' learning. They are knowledgeable about different faith groups within the community, and confident to ask questions to understand more. Leaders have identified a number of philosophical, theological and spiritual

aspects within RE, which enables further cross-curricular links.

Parish Primary community builds friendships well. Pupils, staff and parents are supported by the kind, caring ethos of the school. Many benefit from their outreach work. The Hub is a 'place of help, care and acceptance' providing a highly valued space for families. The kind and caring ethos of the school is offered to all. Pupils feel safe and benefit from using the zones of regulation to manage their emotions. These help everyone identify and express their feelings, increasing emotional self-regulation throughout the school. As a result of the ethos, behaviour throughout the school is positive and attendance is very good. Staff are clearly valued and nurtured by leaders, enabling them to professionally grow and thrive.

Parish Primary develops leadership skills amongst its older pupils through a wide range of roles and responsibilities. This enables them to develop their passions and interests, as well as to become role models for younger children. Vulnerable or disadvantaged children and their families are welcomed and nurtured. Leaders provide compassionate support to families in need. Parents and carers feel heard and work in partnership well with the school. Staff are knowledgeable about pupils and the varying provisions in place to support them. Parish Primary understands its role within the community, offering all an opportunity to grow in learning, friendship and faith.

These inspection findings indicate that Parish Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	19 January 2024	URN	139984
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	606
Diocese	Rochester		
MAT/Federation	Aquinas Trust		
Headteacher	Rachel Coleman		
Chair	Giles Lambert		
Inspector	Matthew Harris	No.	2102