

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Sneinton St Stephen's Church of England Primary School	
Address	Windmill Lane, Sninton, NG2 4QB
School vision	
<p>Together, We Can Achieve 'Be kind to one another and build each other up.' 1 Thessalonians 5:11</p> <p>We aim to develop a passion for lifelong learning, exploring life in all its fullness, with hope and aspiration, through a world class education.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The profound sense of people of faith living out Sneinton's deep Christian vision is entrenched in every aspect of school life. • A rich awareness of being loved and nurtured as children of God empowers pupils to thrive. • Strong support and systems within the Transform Trust structure greatly enhances the Christian character of the school. • Inspirational and meaningful collective worship positively impacts the spiritual lives of the whole school community. • A dynamic and creative religious education (RE) curriculum ensures pupils are enthusiastic learners and actively engaged. Teaching and learning are of very high quality. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt uniformity in documentation and communications in order to celebrate the school's deeply embedded Christian vision. • Continue to implement identified actions and opportunities to further enhance the spiritual flourishing of the school community. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>There is a real awareness of people of faith encompassed by God's love as you enter Sneinton St. Stephen's. Togetherness and encouraging others to be the best they can be is at the heart of all relationships. This community is served unconditionally with Christian compassion and care.</p> <p>Living out the biblical message of kindness and building each other up is intrinsic in everything. All readily explain the recently redefined, succinct values of love, joy, unity and hope. A rich awareness of a community working together enables everyone to feel they belong in this school of many faiths. All are nurtured and thrive because of unwavering support accompanied by great empathy. Very well informed governors contribute to the evolving vision. It is at the heart of discussions at every level. Consequently, such familiarity sometimes means changes and additions to wording have not</p>	

always been transferred to publications and documentation. As the founder of the multi academy trust (MAT), Transform's vision is very closely aligned to that of St. Stephen's. Systems within the trust's structure greatly enhance and enrich the Christian character. The faith committee is conducive to maintaining the uniqueness and flourishing of their church school communities. A partnership of trust faith members, including an Islamic academy, contributes to exceptional provision and innovative opportunities of working together.

Shaped by the vision, the curriculum is enabling pupils to see themselves as part of a far wider world. They have a perceptive and advanced comprehension of their place, as well as their stewardship of our planet. Recent evaluation identified that a redefinition of spirituality was required. This is the main focus of the improvement plan this year. Staff continue to deepen their own knowledge and describe how they are now looking at everything through the lens of spirituality. The school is a leader in digital technology and each pupil has their own electronic device. This innovative approach enables staff to instantly access each pupils' learning. Leaders' relentless commitment ensures that everyone receives the education they deserve. Bespoke strategies support those with additional needs. After school clubs and links with key city organisations also add to the richness of provision.

Collective worship is the most important part of the day. It is highly inclusive and everyone is invited to participate without obligation. The deep awareness of a community worshipping together is very poignant. Pupil leaders support with preparation and there is a great sense of expectation as everyone gathers. Pupils become immersed in worship and readily make their own contributions. Amazing Grace is sung in Swahili with great exuberance accompanied by African drums. This moving spiritual experience transcends across those present. All are encouraged to think about how they can be more like Jesus during the week. Prayer is natural and meaningful. Classroom 'pop up prayers' encourage daily spontaneous reflection and there are many similar opportunities throughout the day. The relationship between church and school is seamless. Overcoming challenges within the community has fostered an even stronger connection. A wide range of churches and the diocese offer unwavering support. Parents meet to pray every two weeks. As a result, the school is spiritually upheld by those with a real heart for Sneinton St. Stephen's.

Everyone is known and celebrated as a child of God. Each has a unique place which empowers them to work together to achieve their best. Extremely high levels of respect and a policy focussing on forgiveness have led to exemplary levels of behaviour. Instances of bullying are rare. High attendance levels demonstrate the passion and enjoyment for learning. Families regard Sneinton St. Stephen's as a safe space and access a range of support. They regard this school as their lifeline in difficult times. Well informed staff are able to direct to initiatives relevant to need including provision from local church communities. Everyone goes beyond their roles to ensure the best outcomes for their families. Pupils can raise awareness about worries through the digital app and someone will check in with them. Wellbeing Buddies are prominent to support at breaktimes. Staff describe the freedom they have to express themselves and the ethos of care filtering down from leaders. The influence of the whole team working closely together impacts many lives way beyond the school day.

Pupils at Sneinton have a mature confidence in themselves. They take their leadership roles very seriously and with great responsibility. The curriculum is key to encouraging a focus on influential characters and stewardship of our world. Eco leaders are passionate about the environment and their allotment. Pupils are familiar with the plight of refugees and regularly welcome them into their classes with palpable understanding. Working towards the 'Social Impact Award' is giving clear focus to develop as agents of change. The school council chose an international charity to support because they wanted to help children across the world. A wide range of creative partnerships provide opportunities for classes to experience life beyond where they live. They often participate at

national conferences, sharing their expertise.

There is a rich and vibrant RE curriculum at Sneinton. Leaders have been involved in developing the local syllabus, which also impacts the good learning in school. The subject is extremely well led. It is taught by inspirational and knowledgeable teachers. Digital provision greatly enhances understanding and assessment. Previous lessons can be retrieved through technology and used as a tool to aid progression. Pupils have a very high level of religious literacy. They have a vast awareness of Bible stories deepened during collective worship as well as in RE. Annual Christmas and Easter pilgrimages, involving church communities and parents, are instrumental in helping to identify with the life of Jesus. The curriculum is enhanced because of the many opportunities to visit places of worship which are within walking distance. This is a community of many faiths. There is an overwhelming appreciation of the importance of learning about each other's beliefs.

Sneinton St. Stephen's deeply embedded Christian vision is being explicitly lived out in this diverse community. Working together, lives are being transformed enabling all to live life in all its fullness.

The inspection findings indicate that Sneinton St. Stephen's Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	23 January 2024	URN	139217
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	240
Diocese	Southwell & Nottingham		
MAT/Federation	Transform Trust		
Headteacher	Mark Lowe		
Chair	Matt Jones		
Inspector	Joy Hardy	No.	944