

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Cannington Church of England Primary School	
Address	Brook Street, Cannington, Somerset. TA5 2HP
School vision	
<p>Grow, flourish and thrive Psalm 92:12-15</p> <p>Our vision represents a desire to encourage growth and, in feeling secure, valued, responsible and empowered, we believe our pupils and staff will have all they need to flourish in life. 'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.' Jeremiah 29.11</p> <p>Key values: Friendship, Forgiveness, Trust and Hope</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school's theologically rooted Christian vision underpins leaders' actions and decision-making enabling all to be the best that they can be. Driven by the Christian vision, the school has a stunning culture of care. Rooted in Christian compassion, it enables adults and pupils to thrive together. The school's innovative focus on positive relationships between pupils and adults supports good mental health and wellbeing for all. Personalised provision for those with additional learning, social and personal needs is highly effective. Partnerships with families, church and the wider community are excellent. They demonstrate an outworking of the Christian vision and enrich lives. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a shared understanding of spirituality to support spiritual flourishing for all. Develop religious education (RE) further by ensuring that staff have clarity regarding the content of the curriculum. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>Cannington Church of England Primary School's theologically rooted Christian vision is lived out by adults and pupils. The firmly held vision and accompanying values of friendship, forgiveness, trust and hope, underpin daily life supporting everyone to grow. The recently revised vision was designed to serve the needs of both the school and the wider community. Governors know their school and involve themselves in its daily life. Their decision making is firmly rooted in the vision resulting in a school where all are included and encouraged to be the best that they can be.</p> <p>Pupils and adults are proud to belong to Cannington School. The current focus on 'relationships' creates an atmosphere of cooperation and encourages the acceptance of each</p>	

other's differences. Pupils say that difference doesn't matter and that everyone is welcome at this school. New staff, pupils and parents say that they are included straight away. By developing shared emotional understanding, adults and pupils have established a new way of managing behaviour. This means that members of the school community live well together. It has resulted in a calm and considered reaction from staff and pupils if ever a poor behaviour choice is made by a pupil. Parents appreciate how their children understand this approach and feel empowered by it. All members of the school community say that good mental health and wellbeing are improved as a direct result of this amazing and innovative approach.

The school has a deeply felt, and widely acknowledged, culture of care, rooted in Christian compassion. It cares about all its pupils and staff as individuals, appropriately supporting them to thrive. Provision for pupils with additional learning, social and personal needs is individually tailored and delivered by a skilled staff team. A wide range of interventions is used, and effectiveness monitored. Outside agencies are engaged where appropriate. All pupils are known, and the learning environment is designed to facilitate pupils' different requirements when learning. This includes a 'SafeSpace tent' and creative reflection areas. A 'growth' mindset supporting the development of self-belief, is encouraged in all things. The school's care is extended to pupils' families with an open-door policy based on Christian love. This ensures staff are available whenever there is need. In line with the vision, staff go the extra mile to support everyone connected with the school. This may be in times of emotional need or hardship and demonstrates the vision in action.

Illustrating the vision, importance is given to equity and equality for both staff and pupils, ensuring that all feel valued. Staff and pupil voice is important and staff are ambitious for their pupils' learning and futures. Resulting from recent high emotional needs across the school, leaders are aware that academic progress has been mixed. However, this is now being successfully addressed and the newly revised curriculum offers a range of learning opportunities. It is accessible to all pupils and encourages those who are more able. Additionally, it is carefully monitored and is supported by a range of extra-curricular activities and wrap around care. Extensive grounds encourage an appreciation of God's world through outdoor learning and fosters pupils' desire to 'look after the planet.' Such subjects as forest school and gardening, enrich the curriculum, with welly walks and opportunities to sit under the trees and read in a quiet, reflection area. A Year 3 pupil said, 'I think about Jesus there and try to be a good person.'

Collective worship is central to the life of the school and is timetabled at the beginning of each day. Pupils and staff say this gives them a 'good start' to the morning, and they enjoy coming together to worship and reflect. However, the lack of a shared understanding of spirituality restricts personal spiritual flourishing. Much use is made of music and song in collective worship, alongside the celebration of both academic success and good behaviour based on the school values. Collective worship is carefully planned around a rotation of Christian values and is delivered by a range of different people. This includes pupils and the local vicar, who ensures that pupils have a good understanding of the Christian year.

Partnerships are important to the school providing extra opportunities for pupils to thrive. The school works closely with the local church and is supported by the diocese in training and leadership. The school worships at the church for major Christian festivals and these are very well supported by families and church members. Special services such as harvest and the service for school leavers are also held in church. Pupils are given Bibles by the church to support them in their future lives. The pre-school and school also work closely together to

encourage a smooth transition into the Reception class. This shows Christian care for children to enter full time education happily. Parents effectively support the school through the parent teacher association (PTA). They also appreciate opportunities to join their children for special lessons such as baking which demonstrate the vision in action.

Acknowledging the school vision to encourage personal growth, pupils are invited to assume roles of responsibility. The head boy and girl are democratically elected and Year 6 pupils act as buddies to Reception children. As a result of these opportunities, pupils are increasingly becoming agents of change. Guided by their school vision, when need is identified, they respond. This is often through their elected school council, where they create ways to raise money to support such things as national charities or local floods.

The RE curriculum is constructed to ensure that pupils make progress in RE. Whilst it is based upon local and national resources, the teacher knowledge needed to successfully deliver the content in depth, is lacking. However, it is well-resourced and considered to be an important part of the curriculum. It covers a range of religions enabling Christianity to be seen as a world religion and broadening pupils' thinking. Pupils enjoy their lessons, particularly discussion and often continue this outside the classroom.

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

Information			
School	Cannington CE VC Primary School	Inspection date	29 February 2024
URN	123786	VC/VA/Academy	VC
Diocese/District	Diocese of Bath and Wells	Pupils on roll	180
MAT/Federation	N/A		
Headteacher	Claire Nurse		
Chair of Governors	Naomi Parker-Jones		
Inspector	Alison Appleyard	No.	877