



## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>St Andrew's Church of England VC Primary School, Eccles</b>	
Address	Barton Lane, Eccles, M30 0FL

<b>School vision</b>
<p>“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 To strive for respect, enjoyment and excellence for all!</p>

<b>School strengths</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils and adults flourish because leaders, at all levels, fully understand their diverse community. Interwoven are the school’s values, secured and strengthened with Bible verses, lived out in the everyday working of St Andrew's. Leaders have created a nurturing culture where pupils and adults are cherished for who they are.</li> <li>• The school enables people from richly diverse communities to live well together. Staff, parents and pupils are respectful of one another’s beliefs and customs. As a result, people feel safe and flourish.</li> <li>• Collective worship is a highlight, enabling pupils to understand the vision and values in daily life. It is well supported by local clergy, with the school and community gathering together.</li> <li>• Leaders actively create a school- wide culture of inclusivity and equity. They welcome, nurture and support all, including the vulnerable and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).</li> <li>• Due to the inspiring religious education (RE) curriculum, pupils blossom. This deepens their understanding of Christianity as a worldwide living faith.</li> </ul>

<b>Areas for development</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Extend planned opportunities for spiritual development in the curriculum. This is so that pupils have deeper experiences to spiritually flourish.</li> <li>• Involve pupils more in the planning, leading and evaluating of collective worship . This is to identify clear steps of development to enable the spiritual flourishing of all.</li> </ul>

<b>Inspection findings</b>
<p>St Andrew’s is a truly transformational Church school, serving a richly diverse area. Leaders are dedicated to ensuring individuals develop their gifts and flourish. The Christian vision serves both the community and God. Staff recognise the uniqueness of pupils and work hard to empower them to use their gifts. This reflects the values of love, honesty, respect and forgiveness. These are not merely aspirational, they are actively integrated into the school's ethos. St Andrew's works effectively with families to dismantle barriers that might limit life chances. The impact of the vision can be seen in leaders’ rapid, decisive and supportive actions after a fire and flood. This inclusive approach ensures the flourishing of pupils, staff and the community.</p>



Leaders demonstrate a clear understanding of the Christian foundation in guiding decision making. For instance, curriculum development, pastoral care, and community engagement are explicitly unwavering. Their work with staff offers challenge and supports the future direction of St Andrew's. The school living out the vision and values has led to new accreditation. The leading parent partnership and the mentoring and befriending foundation awards, are testament to the flourishing of the community. This sense of community collaboration, which is so foundational to the school's vision, extends to their partnership with ten local schools.

St Andrew's has earned a creditable reputation among families for being deeply inclusive. Many pupils arrive having never been in a school before and with English as an additional language (EAL). Within this diverse community adults work determinedly to help them feel unique and a special part of St Andrew's welcoming environment. This support from the sanctuary ambassadors is assisting their bid to be a 'school of sanctuary'. They successfully integrate those with EAL or SEND. Pupils and parents are welcomed, valued, further supporting the commitment to the vision, enabling flourishing. Determined staff tirelessly live out the school's values. This ensures that no-one who may be struggling goes unnoticed. The dedicated pastoral team, using specialist resources, ensure well-tailored and targeted support. They work hard to remove barriers to learning. The disadvantaged and vulnerable blossom due to the culture of inclusivity and acceptance. Staff wellbeing is supported with an open culture of compassion and care. Regular check-ins are undertaken. Training and further qualifications are made good use of. Consequently, staff feel highly valued and morale is high. Pupils are clear that 'God sees everyone at St Andrew's as one loving family'. This illustrates the vision in action. The school enjoys a well-established relationship with the church. A well-attended Bible explorers club is flourishing, with favourite stories recounted and shared at home.

The focus on cultural heritage means that it is relevant to the lives of this diverse community. As a result, pupils are engaged and enthused in their learning. The emphasis on love, honesty, respect and forgiveness, align with the vision and values. This empowers pupils to share and celebrate their cultural and religious identities. Parents learn about a wide range of faiths from their children, improving their knowledge of other cultures.

Activities beyond the classroom, including those within the outdoor environment, provide rich learning opportunities. The many roles that are provided by the school offer a valuable and unique experience. Pupils build their own sense of self-worth as they embrace challenges, as well as develop perseverance, teamwork skills and confidence. There are occasions to incorporate spirituality within the curriculum. Spontaneous moments of 'awe and wonder' are regularly embraced. For example, a recent 'sharing class prayer assembly' for parents highlighted the confident performance of pupils who have EAL. However, there are few planned opportunities to develop spirituality across the curriculum.

Collective worship is a thoughtful blend of Christian teachings and messages that resonate with the diverse population. Staff and pupils value the class prayer assemblies as well as the whole school worship. This fosters a sense of unity and understanding amongst St Andrew's community. The integration of celebration, reflection, prayer, music, symbols and imagery creates an enriching experience. This inspires them to live out the school values by being loving, forgiving, honest and respectful. Pupils are very proud of their reflection spaces and regularly use these for personal prayers. The ethos group regularly plan, evaluate and sometimes lead collective worship. Ethos group leaders really value worship, the importance of prayer and bringing everyone together. They are eager to contribute further, but this is in the early stages of development.

Pupils flourish in RE. It plays a central role in enabling them to deepen their knowledge of a range of religions and worldviews. Lessons are engaging. Pupils are enthusiastic learners, embracing



opportunities for role-play, drama and artwork. Pupils gain a clear understanding of Christianity as a worldwide faith. Their factual knowledge of a range of religions, how and why believers pray, is impressive. The exploration of enquiry questions enables pupils to reflect more deeply on the relevance of faith in their own lives. For example, thinking of the parable of the four friends, pupils believe you should never give up on your dreams. In this way they are given freedom to express their own opinions and not feel judged.

The underlying vision encourages a compassionate acceptance of all, regardless of background or belief. This results in an ethos of equality and diversity that enables pupils to consider the requirements of others. The school's initiatives have provided help to meet the needs of the community. For example, fundraising for the wood street mission enabled pupils who are vulnerable to have a Christmas present. Supporting the mustard tree charity ensures there are hot meals for the homeless, as well as an accessible food bank. There are free lunch-time and after-school clubs, run by staff that enrich pupils lives. Pupils are given opportunities to voice concerns and initiate fundraising through the school council. This builds awareness of the St Andrew's vision and values. Pupils advocate for one another, providing assistance as translators. They articulate how the school values of courage and compassion enable them to assist others.

These inspection findings indicate that St Andrew's Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	29 April 2024	URN	105934
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	229
Diocese	Manchester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Joanne Bladen-Kay		
Chair	Julie Roebuck		
Inspector	Elaine Bowers	No.	960