

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

West Butterwick Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	School Lane, West Butterwick, Scunthorpe, DN17 3LB
School vision	
<p>'Developing hope & resilience – Building a community of aspiration Inspired by the love & teachings of Jesus Christ to be the best that we can be'</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision of the school shapes the learning experience and wider provision for pupils. Specific consideration is made for those who are deemed to be vulnerable or disadvantaged. • The Christian values of the school are known and lived out by the West Butterwick community. As a result, a culture of love is evident in the relationships between pupils and staff. • There is a strong and clear Christian vision that is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It effectively drives all school improvement. • Leaders have developed a vision inspired curriculum rooted in hope and aspiration. Time is taken to ensure it enriches pupils' learning opportunities at West Butterwick. • Collective worship is central to the fulfilment of the school vision. Strong partnerships with local clergy support and enhance the spiritual development of pupils. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan rich opportunities for spiritual development to be embedded. This is to ensure it is central in enabling pupils to flourish. • Further develop the role of pupils in raising awareness of injustice. This is to help them understand how they can be agents for change. • Ensure careful monitoring and evaluation of religious education (RE), drives improvements in the subject. This is to provide appropriate challenge for pupils across all year groups 	
Inspection findings	
<p>West Butterwick Church of England Primary School provides a place of hope and aspiration, rooted in the teachings of Jesus. Changes in the leadership structure and staffing have been managed with sensitivity, reflecting the Christian values. The vision for every member of the school community to 'be the best that we can be', has driven the strategic decisions made by leaders. Love and compassion flows through each interaction with pupils. Their needs are at the heart of the school community. An understanding of the school vision is deepened through the links made with stories from the Bible. Pupils are insightful as they reflect on the events of Easter. They recognise the resilience that Jesus showed so that 'we can all have hope'.</p> <p>The existing partnerships with the two other schools in the Trentside Federation has given a new injection of sense and purpose. This development is rooted in the vision for West Butterwick. Together leaders are intentionally building a community of aspiration. This is mutually beneficial for the flourishing of pupils and adults. For example, the federation has appointed leaders in key roles</p>	

to work across the schools. This has allowed staff at West Butterwick to grow in their expertise and have the opportunity to enrich the learning experiences for pupils. These effective partnerships extend beyond the Federation. The strong links that exist with the local church support the spiritual development of pupils. Leaders have actively pursued opportunities for collaboration at every opportunity. The school engages well with the Diocese and training is accessed regularly by staff. Those involved from the school community have recently formed a parent association group. They work closely with staff in supporting the wider curriculum provision at West Butterwick. The school is truly 'building a community of aspiration' together.

The vision is central to the curriculum. This responds to the challenges and opportunities that exist for this small, rural school. The Christian values of hope, resilience, wisdom, courage, joy and love are golden threads that are woven into each subject. For example, pupils develop their resilience and wisdom through carefully crafted approaches to collaborative work. Planned opportunities to experience joy are plentiful. This is powerfully shown through the activities that pupils with special educational needs and/or disability (SEND) access at break times. Staff put the needs of pupils at the heart of every decision that is made. This support is valued by parents in enabling their children to flourish and benefit from space for emotional expression. Opportunities to enrich pupils spiritual growth are planned for. However, these are not fully embedded in the school.

The school community is enriched by acts of collective worship. Pupils see it as a time to learn about God and themselves. They consider how Christians use the bible like a tree uses its roots. Pupils make links to the growth of sunflowers and show a developing understanding of how God works through the Holy Spirit. Acts of collective worship are rooted in the vision and values of the school. As a result, pupils have a deep understanding of them. The school works closely with the church community. Times of collective worship are led by local clergy from a range of denominations. These visits are eagerly anticipated by the pupils. They reflect on the Bible stories that are shared with joy and curiosity, including at home with their families. School leaders ensure that all can access times of collective worship in ways that are appropriate for them. This is done with sensitivity and provides an inclusive time for pupils. A recent series of collective worship sessions focused on the Lord's prayer. This helps deepen an understanding of the power of contemplation. However, opportunities for pupils to grow spiritually through experiences of stillness and reflection are at an early stage of development.

Pupils have a deep care for each member of their school community. They celebrate difference and recognise that everyone needs support in various ways. Pupils know they have a voice and understand how they can use this to speak out for those in need. They are keen to help others and ensure equal opportunities for all. Pupils share how they have grown in their understanding and compassion for refugees. This was aided by a recent study of the book 'Boy at the back of the class'. The school is actively involved in many community and fundraising projects. Pupils talk about how this helps those less fortunate and raises awareness. They know that their voice can make a difference beyond the school gates. However, pupils understanding of their role in a global community is not secure.

RE is led effectively and targeted support is provided to teachers through the federation. A well-structured programme of study focuses on big questions that engage pupils' interest. In early years they identify the different elements of the Easter garden they created. Pupils speak with pride about their creation and could recall the key events. Older peers shared how they enjoy learning about world faiths. For example, they are fascinated by the concept of Moksha in Hinduism, linking this with the idea of karma and reincarnation. As a result, they understand how faith is practised in religions around the world. Leaders have developed a regular monitoring schedule to evaluate the effectiveness of RE as part of the curriculum. However, this process is in the early stages of development. Consequently, the level of challenge from leaders is not robust enough.



This caring school is much valued in its local community. Recent changes in leadership, combined with accurate self-evaluation has led to many positive developments. Leaders are guided by the school's Christian vision and are clear about their priorities going forward.

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

Information			
Inspection date	14 March 2024	URN	118018
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	48
Diocese	Lincoln		
MAT/Federation	The Trentside Federation		
Executive Headteacher	Daniel Callaghan		
Chair	Sally Moorman & Claire Noonan (Co-chairs)		
Inspector	David Akers	No.	2135