



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Meridian Angel Primary School	
Address	Albany Road, Edmonton, London, N18 2DX
School vision	
<p>'We are a safe and inclusive community deeply rooted in God's love.'</p> <p>As members of a calm and stable learning environment, everyone will experience equal opportunities for growth and exploration and the gift of supportive, caring FRIENDSHIPS within which the seeds of RESILIENCE are planted and watered. Our HOPE is that all can blossom and flourish continuing to grow into the people they have been created to be.</p> <p>Ephesians 3: 14-17 For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meridian Angel Primary School is a diverse and highly inclusive school. Leaders are keenly in tune with the needs of pupils and their families, and have high aspirations for them. • The visionary leadership of the school, coupled with well-chosen partnerships, enhances the lives of all who come here. Close relationships between the school and local Church of England clergy enrich the life of the whole community. Strong, effective partnerships with the London Diocesan Board for Schools strengthen this. • Inspired by the Christian vision, relationships between the school and its community are extremely positive. The wellbeing of everyone is important and is shaped by an overwhelming sense of Christian love. • Collective worship is cherished by both pupils and adults. The variety of styles of worship support spiritual growth and enhance a strong sense of community. • Religious education (RE) is tailored to the needs of pupils and the context of the community. As a result, pupils enjoy learning about a range of world religions and worldviews, including Christianity. This teaches them to respect and value the views of others. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a systematic approach that allows governors to evaluate the impact the Christian vision has on all aspects of this Church school. This is to strengthen governors' understanding of its effectiveness. • Expand pupils' opportunities to be independent agents of change both within the community and the wider world. This is so that the impact of the school's Christian vision is extended. 	
Inspection findings	

A powerful Christian vision is at the heart of Meridian Angel Primary School. Leaders clearly articulate how their thoughtfully crafted Christian vision is contextually relevant to this welcoming and loving school. Meridian Angel school is on a transformational journey of improvement. The Christian vision and values form a bedrock for school development. They empower recently appointed school leaders to make strategic decisions, enabling pupils and adults to flourish personally and spiritually. The Christian vision also ensures that robust and fruitful partnerships exist between the school, London Diocesan Board for Schools (LDBS), diocese and local church. Governors have a clear understanding of the vision and how this enables flourishing within the community. Through challenging times, governors look to the vision to ensure that the right decision is made. However, this does not always explicitly explore the impact of the school's vision.

The Christian vision and associated values drive decisions and actions, bringing strength and hope to families at times of need. They have drawn the school community together around a shared identity and purpose. The symbolic olive tree planted in the school grounds is rooted in an environment that enables growth and strength. Its significance to different world religions helps to reflect the richly diverse community the school serves. Meridian Angel has an immense heart and is an oasis of hope for the local community. For example, staff support families with paperwork when language is a barrier. Decisions are carefully considered and made based on what positive impact they will have on pupils, staff and the whole community. Parents are exceptionally appreciative of the 'open door' policy. This has been key in helping the school to work more closely in partnership with families. Parents value the integral part they now play in the life of the school. They recognise that love permeates the life of the school.

Adults take pupil wellbeing very seriously. The recent mental health week reinforced that 'it's ok not to be ok'. Pupils say that adults make time to listen to them. This results in them feeling safe and well-supported. Staff also value the care that is shown to them by leaders. Their wellbeing is a high priority for governors and leaders. This is exemplified through their understanding of staff workload. Consequently, there is a strong staff team who support each other and feel valued. Staff are sensitive to the needs of all families and pupils. Vulnerable pupils and their families are cared for with purpose, dignity and empathy to ensure the best outcomes. As a result, the school lives up to its vision of 'being a safe and inclusive community deeply rooted in God's love.'

Pupils have a good understanding of justice. Pledge cards, written by pupils, focus on who and how they can help and the reasons why. Year 2 fundraised to buy puzzle books for members of the local care home while Year 6 volunteered at the local foodbank. However, opportunities for pupils to take a more active role in leading projects to be agents of change are limited.

Setting the vision at the heart of curriculum development ensures that pupils are engaged in their learning. The inclusive curriculum ensures that all can be successful learners. Trips and visitors enhance classroom learning and provide opportunities to explore different places and ideas. For example, the Year 6 visit to see Matilda in the West End and the Young Voices event at the O2 Arena were both memorable and inspirational. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities or who are vulnerable, receive bespoke support. Leaders recognise, however, that pupil needs will change periodically. They are ready to provide support and resources in a timely manner where and when needed. Skilled staff work intensively, but sensitively, with pupils and their families to remove barriers to attending school or learning. There is an impressive choice of extra-curricular clubs run by staff which bring opportunities for pupils to feel successful. These motivate and inspire pupils to develop themselves by trying new things. The school provides some opportunities for spiritual development through the curriculum, particularly in the form of awe and wonder. Planned opportunities to explore spirituality across the curriculum continue to be embedded.

Collective worship is a special and treasured time of the day. It enables all to come together to meet and focus on the Christian love which is at the centre of Meridian Angel. This daily focus further embeds the vision. Well-planned worship themes empower pupils to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world. It enables all to reflect and think about who they are and who they can become. RE champions read and lead prayers while 'VIPs' prepare candles and the worship area. Reflection, music and silence play an important part of worship, enriching opportunities for spiritual growth. Collective worship inspires pupils to look beyond themselves, share responses and think about big questions. Pupils appreciate that worship is at the end of the school day and state it helps them to feel peaceful as they go home. Clergy lead worship weekly which strengthens the meaningful and active relationships between the local church and school community. Pupils enthusiastically share how they look forward to this worship and enjoy being actively involved. Parents are exceptionally appreciative of attending the weekly celebration worship, appreciating the impact it has on behaviour and personal development. The reflection area in school offers a comfortable space for individual contemplation during the school day. It is very inclusive and representative of the diverse range of faiths in school.

Leaders place RE at the heart of learning, ensuring teachers are supported so that pupils are well taught and challenged by their lessons. The school follows the LDBS (London Diocesan Board for Schools) syllabus and work closely with them for training and support. The RE syllabus is broad and varied, encompassing Christianity and a variety of world religions and worldviews. Following the appointment of a new staff member, leaders are currently working collaboratively, sharing the subject leadership of RE. This is to ensure that standards remain consistently high and there is continuity of approach. Clergy enhance RE provision leading discussions with pupils around communion, confirmation and baptism. Pupils learn well in a calm and purposeful environment. They confidently ask and answer questions, and enjoy exploring challenging texts and concepts in class.

The inspection findings indicate that Meridian Angel School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	27 June 2024	URN	141017
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	154
Diocese	London		
MAT/Federation	London Diocesan Board for Schools LDBS Academies Trust		
Headteacher	Lawrence Desouza		
Chair	Tina Kelsey		
Inspector	Jane Davis	No.	2210