

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

St Augustine's Church of England Primary School, Pendlebury	
Address	380 Bolton Road, Swinton, Manchester, M27 8UX
School vision	
To experience life in all its fullness - John 10:10	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Christian vision actively drives a culture that supports the needs of the community. Tailored support for families and pupils, particularly those who have special needs and/or disabilities (SEND) creates an ambitious culture. This, together with rich support for pupils' emotional and social needs ensures that barriers to learning are removed and opportunities for flourishing are a reality.</li> <li>• The school curriculum is adapted to inspire and motivate pupils, ignite their love of learning and enables them to experience 'life in all its fullness'. Carefully selected extra-curricular activities enrich the breadth of experiences that pupils encounter.</li> <li>• Worship is a deeply valued part of each day, providing meaningful moments for all to gather together. The spiritual development of adults and pupils is enhanced through music, time for reflection and opportunities to reflect on Bible stories.</li> <li>• Leaders have developed a clear, shared understanding of spirituality. This allows reflection to be a natural part of curriculum areas and collective worship.</li> <li>• Effective partnerships with Vantage Academy Trust, the diocese and the local church strengthen the effectiveness of this as a Church school. These relationships enrich and deepen the impact of the Christian vision on work of the school enabling pupils and adults to flourish together.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that the Christian vision is the explicit driver for leaders' actions in this Church school. This is so that it guides all decisions and the way its impact is a lived reality for pupils and adults.</li> <li>• Embed the recently revised religious education (RE) curriculum so pupils deepen their understanding of a range of worldviews and faiths, including Christianity.</li> <li>• Extend pupils' independent opportunities to be active agents for change, broadening their understanding of justice and responsibility.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>St Augustine's is a deeply loving and caring school whose Christian vision drives it to serve the needs of its community. Parents are appreciative of the support they receive from school, and recognise the commitment and dedication of the staff. The school's vision is central to its curriculum, extra-curricular offer and pastoral support. It broadens pupils' life experiences so that they are able to experience 'life in all its fullness'. The way this is articulated by staff and leaders is developing. This</p>	



Christian foundation has led to major improvements in behaviour, reading and relationships with families, enabling the pupils to flourish. The trust's vision is closely aligned with the school's and contributes greatly to their ongoing growth as a Church school. Monitoring by the trust and diocesan advisers provides effective challenge in addition to valued support. This external view helps leaders focus their attention on policies and strategies to drive improvements.

Recent developments in the curriculum, collective worship and RE demonstrate the high aspirations of leaders. Proactive work to develop spirituality in worship is one example of leaders' ambition. Staff are supported to thrive through the wide range of professional development opportunities available through the trust. In addition to accessing formal qualifications, they also benefit from opportunities to lead networks as well as new initiatives.

The trust-wide curriculum has been adapted to meet the needs of the pupils. Leaders are passionate that pupils receive the care and support they require in order to experience 'life in all its fullness'. Driven by the aspirational vision, the school's emphasis on developing reading supports pupils in accessing the curriculum. Adults ensure that the curriculum is broad and relevant. This is to expand pupils' knowledge and broaden their horizons through experiences such as visits and visitors coming into school. Exciting trips are varied such as outdoor pursuits in Wales and making pizzas at a restaurant chain. These encourage pupils to experience new activities and to see possibilities for their futures. Subject topics are designed to engage pupils, giving them space and opportunity to reflect on themselves. Adults and learners can confidently discuss moments of awe and wonder and what it means to them. This enables spiritual growth throughout the school.

Collective Worship takes place at the beginning of each day when adults and pupils appreciate time for calm reflection. It ensures that those attending feel welcome and included. Joyful singing and reverent prayer shape the delivery of worship that is supported by the worship committee. This, combined with planned moments for stillness, provide meaningful moments for the spiritual development of adults and pupils. Quiet reflection times offer pupils opportunities to consider the important messages from worship and how they can respond to these. For example, 'What gifts have you been given that can contribute to our community?' Pupils are confident to talk about their own views, beliefs and the importance of prayer. In Reception and Nursery, 'Wiggle Worship' has been introduced to enhance the way that younger children are engaged in worship. They enthusiastically join in a range of actions and songs centred around a key Bible story. Pupils, staff and parents talk enthusiastically about how special visits are to St Augustine's church at key times during the year.

The vision promotes positive, caring relationships between staff, pupils and their families. This is a school where every individual is known well. Parents are confident to seek advice from the school, who work closely with agencies to support families who are deemed disadvantaged. Pupils know that they can speak to adults at any time and that they will be listened to. Recently revised behaviour policies are consistently applied and understood by pupils. When occasionally things go wrong, relationships are effectively restored through a culture of forgiveness and second chances.

Teaching pupils about people who have changed the world is integral to the school's vision for all to flourish. Justice and responsibility are central elements of the curriculum. This inspires pupils to speak knowledgeably and passionately about people who are advocates of change. They are keen to actively reduce the amount of litter in their community and support a local care home. However, the extent to which pupils undertake these actions as independent agents of change is less developed.

Effectively supported by the diocese and trust, the new RE policy is being introduced in a carefully measured way. Planned training and support enhances teaching, promoting more secure subject knowledge and deeper thinking across a range of worldviews and faiths. This is a direct result of leaders' monitoring of the curriculum, highlighting the positive and developmental impact of their

actions. Careful planning of tasks enables pupils, including those with SEND, to more actively participate in lessons. Art, drama and debate are increasingly used to engage pupils in RE, a subject which they enjoy. Curriculum time is enhanced by additional RE days to enrich pupils' experience of the subject, including visits to the local mosque. Partnership with trust schools provide opportunities to share good practice and undertake joint activities, including assessment and moderation. As a result, the RE leader is rightly confident that judgements are accurate and is leading assessment training in school. Work in books and assessment data show that pupils, including the vulnerable and those with SEND, make progress.

The inspection findings indicate that St Augustine's Church of England Primary School, Pendlebury is living up to its foundation as a Church School.

Information			
Inspection date	10 July 2024	URN	144372
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	207
Diocese	Manchester		
MAT/Federation	Vantage Multi-Academy Trust		
Principal	Gill Mangnall		
Chair	Joanne Hardwidge		
Inspector	Helen Lever	No.	2307