

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Ryton-On-Dunsmore Provost Williams Church of England Academy

Vision

'Let your light shine'

Our vision for our community is for everyone, children and adults, to flourish and shine brightly as the best and fullest version of their unique selves. We aim high and do not let circumstances limit us. In the Old Testament, we see that God created all human beings in his image as unique, loved individuals. It was God's plan for all of creation, including human beings, to flourish. God's desire is for us all to be amazing – loved, valued, represented, celebrated, and fulfilled. In our community, we express this through our motto: 'Let your light shine.' To us, this means being ambitious and determined, proud of who we are and what we can be, pushing boundaries, trying new things, making a difference, being brave, and continuing to learn.

Strengths

- The school's relaunched Christian vision has been thoughtfully underpinned with Bible verses to reflect the community in which it serves.
- An inspirational leadership team wholeheartedly lives out the vision and, as a consequence, others are empowered to respond in a similar way.
- Pupils are thriving at this school. They are celebrated for their uniqueness and are highly valued members of this tight knit, supportive community.
- Partnerships and innovative links make a very positive contribution to deepening the Christian character of the school.
- The vision has had a transformational impact on many lives. This is because there is an unswerving focus on Christian values which give clear and consistent guidance.

Development Points

- For the governing body to develop their understanding of the impact of the school's Christian vision through training, monitoring and evaluation. This is so that they should have an informed overview to support ongoing development as a Church school.
- Strengthen opportunities within the curriculum and collective worship to embed the shared understanding and language of spirituality. This is to enhance and enrich spiritual flourishing.
- Embed the new religious education (RE) curriculum incorporating real-life and practical experiences. This is in order to enable greater understanding and knowledge of diverse communities and worldviews.



Inspection Findings

The long-established Christian vision at Ryton-On-Dunsmore has been thoughtfully relaunched reflecting the current pupils which it serves. Recognising that they have been wonderfully created by God, many are thriving as their uniqueness is treasured and celebrated. The vision has had a transformational impact on many lives. This is because there is a focus on Christian values which give clear and consistent guidance.

The inspirational leadership team is driven by a sincere commitment and empathy towards members of the school community. These dedicated leaders are committed to the flourishing of everyone and there is now a great sense of hope and aspiration. They exemplify the vision in action, and this empowers others to respond in a similar way, especially during difficult times. Encouraged to discover and love their unique self, many let their light shine boldly and confidently. Consequently, they are secure in knowing their place and purpose in the world. Alignment with and support from the Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust (MAT) has been influential in bringing about swift change. The Academy Governors' Committee has worked hard to support this transformation. However, a limited knowledge of the impact of the vision is restricting their input into further developing as a Church school. Other successful partnerships, such as with the Co-op, also have a positive effect.

Pupils who attend this school are encouraged to shine brightly and are given a hope for their future. The new curriculum enables many to see themselves as part of a far wider world. Shaped by the vision that there is potential in everyone, it is highly ambitious and promotes a rich global awareness. Staff are sensitively conscious of situations faced beyond the school day. This means that everyone is given the opportunity of a bright future through a personalised curriculum. Adults in school are relentless in bringing about change in their lives. Notably, many with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or who struggle to access learning, are thriving. Leaders have focused on the development of a shared understanding of spirituality. The language of 'ow, wow, and now' is increasingly being used. This is not yet consistent but there is an emerging awareness of this element in the life of the school. Although, identified curriculum opportunities to develop spiritual moments are less evident. A range of activities at lunchtime and after school contribute to the richness of provision and raising aspirations.

Collective worship is a special time at the beginning of the day to meet and focus on God's love for everyone. It is planned around the vision and the values supporting it. Worship is inspirational because varied resources are used to engage those gathered. Pupils' responses centre on being lights in the world and worship reflects Anglican tradition. The language of spirituality is sometimes used as the community are invited to pray but is not yet embedded. Pupils enjoy modern worship hymns. This was celebrated as they burst into song as they leave the hall to start their lessons. Class worship is an important time to consider the value for the week. Prompted by a Bible verse or image, pupils are encouraged to think more deeply and record their thoughts. This is strengthening spiritual awareness. Comfortable in the knowledge that all opinions are valued, they have freedom to ask big questions about life and faith. Members of St Leonard's church are keen to reinstate a partnership link. In the absence of a vicar, they have initiated a connection with the Mission Hub. This is already having a positive influence involving clergy leading worship in school. Leaders have also formed a successful collaboration with KICK, which is a Christian organisation offering sports coaching and mentoring. This innovative provision has also enabled the school community to participate in an alternative style of worship and experience faith in action.

Nowhere is the vision seen more clearly than in addressing the wellbeing and mental health needs of many of the school community. Staff know every family and pupils' unique personalities. All are lovingly supported to do their best. Leaders work alongside families to increase attendance in innovative ways. These bespoke, vision-



focused methods are unquestionably encouraging pupils into school. Numerous personalised actions join together to make a great difference to many, including life at home. Parents are well supported and describe adults in school as going the extra mile. Staff are cared for and nurtured in an atmosphere of an all-encompassing love. This creates a sense of unity and shared purpose. Vulnerable pupils are flourishing. This is because staff are uncompromising in ensuring they have highly effective and necessary support. One of these pupils stated, 'This school is fair and equal for all students depending on what their different needs are.' Pupils behave well. The consequences of their actions are made consistently clear in the school's behaviour policy. A simplified chart resembling a ladder is quickly referred to in class. Pupils value the opportunity to continually make a fresh start.

Grounded in the belief that all are significant to God, there is the realisation that there is also a duty towards each other. As a result, pupils have high levels of respect and a mature acceptance of circumstance. They contribute to the local food bank and their leadership roles impact life in school. Every year group has a responsibility, from the youngest children being weather monitors to worship leaders in Year 6. Pupils view small acts, such as cleaning the church for special services, as part of giving back to the village community. The new curriculum allows pupils to see themselves as part of a far wider world. Living out the vision, they are encouraged to shine, as they endeavour to make God's world a better place.

The subject of RE has a high priority and is well led. Leaders have ensured transitional measures are in place as a new curriculum is introduced. Valuable support and guidance from the local diocesan team contributes to advice and staff training. Whilst still in its infancy, a beneficial partnership with other small schools allows RE leaders to work together. Pupils enjoy their lessons and notably, the liberty they are given to express their opinions and ideas. They know that RE is helping them to respect those of different faiths and worldviews and preparing them to have well informed conversations. Interactive RE displays in all classrooms challenge deeper thinking as pupils are asked big questions. However, there are limited practical visits and real-life opportunities to experience a diverse range of cultures and belief.

Information

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| Address | Sodens Avenue, Coventry, West Midlands. CV8 3FF | | |
| Date | 16 September 2024 | URN | 149518 |
| Type of school | Primary | No. of pupils | 106 |
| Diocese | Coventry | | |
| MAT/Federation | The Diocese of Coventry Multi Academy Trust | | |
| Headteacher | Sherrise Cullen | | |
| Chair of Governors | Cate Poolton & Kara Weir (Co chairs) | | |
| Inspector | Joy Hardy 944 | | |