

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Kinnerley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School	
Address	School Road, Kinnerley, Shropshire, SY10 8DF

School vision
To create a school community based on Christian values, in which we strive to foster a love of learning, pride in achievement, and the spiritual and moral compass of our children, equipping them to find their own special place in society and the world. ‘Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is honest, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, whatever is excellent, if anything is worthy of praise think on these things.’ Philippians 4:8
School strengths
• The embedded Christian vision creates an inclusive culture where pupils and adults are nurtured. Through this, members of the school community feel highly valued. • The Christian vision is carefully designed and well rooted in the Bible. It inspires and underpins all that the school does. As a result, pupils and adults flourish. • Religious Education (RE) is enthusiastically and skilfully led. Consequently, the well-planned curriculum is challenging and relevant. • The vision inspires the design of a curriculum that is highly appropriate for the context of the school. The impact of this is that pupils have a wealth of opportunities and provision. • Collective worship is an exciting and enriching part of every school day. Pupils and adults are inspired by a variety of opportunities that support their spiritual development.
Areas for development
• Further deepen pupils’ current understanding of spirituality and cultivate a shared language to explore this. This will enhance the breadth and depth of pupils’ spiritual experiences and responses. • Extend pupils’ independent opportunities to be agents of change. This will enrich their understanding of justice and courageous advocacy.

Inspection findings

Kinnerley is a small school with big ambitions. Everyone is welcome. The lived reality of the Christian vision is evident throughout and underpins all decisions that are taken.

The Christian vision is underpinned by an inspiring verse from the Bible. This informs all actions and decision making at the school. Its associated values, formulated by leaders in consultation with the diocese and clergy, meet the needs of the school. 'The Kinnerley Way' permeates the school, ensuring that the vision, values and motto of are well understood. Consequently, all are valued members of this inclusive community. Supportive governors know the school well and monitor the impact of the vision during regular visits. This means that they are confident that the vision ensures that adults and pupils flourish.

Visionary leaders respond to the specific needs of the school community, making bold decisions that benefit their pupils. As a result of careful consideration, the curriculum is effectively mapped and shaped by the Christian vision. Golden threads make it meaningful and purposeful. These threads also weave through the extracurricular offer. Teachers plan for awe and wonder within the curriculum and allow time for spontaneous moments that inspire. In exploring big ideas and concepts, pupils are encouraged to think deeply, to question and form their own opinions. Also, when looking at leaves as part of the art curriculum, pupils spend time reflecting on their feelings. They also link nature to God's creation and the concept of Dharma in Hinduism. Such activities contribute to pupils being thoughtful and inquisitive. Learning experiences for pupils are rich and engaging. Driven by the core values of the school, pupils who are vulnerable and/or disadvantaged are well supported both academically and personally. Pupil voice and monitoring activities by staff and governors give valuable information about the impact of the curriculum. Parents and staff speak passionately about how the curriculum supports pupils to be curious and independent. It is enabling pupils to flourish.

Driven by the vision, collective worship is an important part of school life. Adults nurture and encourage pupils to shine. There are a wide range of worship opportunities. Everyone is invited, welcomed and included. Worship is a special time of the day where pupils engage well, listening and responding thoughtfully. The quality of worship is enhanced through strong partnerships with the diocese and local clergy. Through Bible stories, pupils learn from the teachings of Jesus, and how this applies to their daily lives. Following training, opportunities for encouraging spiritual development have been effectively mapped. This leads to spiritual flourishing for adults and pupils. However, the school does not have a shared vocabulary to enable them to articulate their understanding of spirituality.

Pupils live the vision through their interactions. They show that they care for each other by their exemplary behaviour in the classroom and throughout the school day. Positive relationships between pupils enable them to work well together. Pupils are happy and consistently behave with kindness and consideration. If a conflict arises, they know that adults are there to support them to resolve it in a friendly way. Forgiveness is always encouraged, and this leads to pupils being able to disagree well. They are proud of their school.

Staff share the desire to make a difference. In particular, the vision has prompted the implementation of specific programmes that focus on wellbeing and diversity. These are based on a strong moral foundation and desire for pupils and adults to flourish now and in the future. Strategies such as mindfulness promote good mental health for the community. Parents speak highly of the inclusive nature of the school and community and the support their children are given. They are clear that they are part of a 'true community' and appreciate the support from

staff. The impact of this is particularly evident with families that have recently arrived in the country. Relationships within the federation between staff and pupils leads to high levels of collaboration and ensures they feel well connected. Staff are sensitive to the needs of families and pupils. Staff wellbeing and professional development are high priorities for governors and leaders. Strategic funding decisions by governors and leaders enable changes for the benefits of staff and pupils. The courage to stand up for what is right is an important to the community. Pupils are aware of issues in the world beyond their village and are able to discuss these confidently. For example, they talk about how understanding of religious and non-religious beliefs empower them to empathise with others. Carefully chosen resources encourage philosophical thinking and debate.

Pupils engage in regular opportunities to learn about charities and wider global issues. They are able to give examples of individual rights as well as their responsibilities. They are keen to hold charity events and support a range of initiatives financially. A rolling focus on values continually reminds pupils of their importance as part of society. Partnerships locally, nationally and internationally impact positively and are important to the school. Pupils benefit from a range of cultural visits and visitors. They are able to talk about a range of issues beyond the village and how they are inspired by these. Although pupils have concerns about the world, opportunities for pupils to drive positive social action are not yet at their fullest potential.

The leadership of RE at Kinnerley is of high quality. Staff work closely together to ensure that the curriculum is constantly evolving and adapted. A progressive and diverse sequence ensures that children are offered opportunities to consider a range of faiths and worldviews. Staff are well supported to implement the curriculum effectively. Thus, they are confident and knowledgeable about the subject and how to teach it. RE forms a core part of the curriculum and challenges pupils to make connections in their learning. For example, recent research around creation led to a range of responses where pupils used prior knowledge to inform their views. Monitoring by leaders and governors maintains an appropriate focus on meeting the requirements for the subject as a Church school.

Kinnerley is a caring and supportive school. Leaders reflect honestly on their journey and rightly celebrate the many strengths. The impact of the school's vision radiates throughout the community.

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

Information			
Inspection date	23 April 2024	URN	123481
VC/VA/Academy	VC	Pupils on roll	83
Diocese	Lichfield		
MAT/Federation	The Westcliffe Federation		
Headteacher	Elizabeth Madin		
Chair of Governors	Eve Whitmore		
Inspector	Catherine Atkinson	No.	C.23/24