

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Fladbury Church of England VA First School

Address

Church Street, Fladbury, Pershore, WR10 2QB

School vision

Jesus promised, 'I came that you may have life and have it to the full.'

John 10:10

Every child at Fladbury will know they are loved by God, have a happy heart and be part of a flourishing well-led school. When they leave Fladbury, they will be well-prepared to meet challenges, confident in their abilities and look forward to their bright futures with an open mind.

School strengths

- The Christian vision is articulated and understood by the whole school community. Leaders are passionate about ensuring every child will know that they are loved by God. This work is effective.
- 'Living life to the full,' is visible in the daily, joyful interactions in the school and this positively impacts the mental health and wellbeing of the pupils and adults.
- The vision and values are clearly expressed through worship and this leads to deeply spiritual flourishing for members of the school community.
- An exciting curriculum has been shaped by the Christian vision. The vulnerable and pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) flourish, as a result of the care and nurture they receive.
- Pupils are growing into responsible members of society by taking action to look after the planet they live in. Pupils understand that they can and do make ethical choices.

Areas for development

- Enhance the monitoring of the impact of the vision to include all aspects of being a Church school in order that leaders know they are enabling people to flourish.
- Ensure the school community can articulate the shared language of spirituality so that pupils and adults flourish spiritually.
- Develop the RE curriculum so that it provides appropriate challenge for all pupils and allows them to make good progress.

Inspection findings

Being a Church school makes a difference to the lives of this school community. The Christian vision of, 'Happy Hearts, Open Minds and Bright Futures,' drives the decisions that are made. As a result of this, pupils and adults are able to flourish in their personal growth. The pupils understand how the vision enables them, 'to live life to the full,' and how it will help them in the future. This is impressive. Leaders live out the vision creating an inclusive atmosphere of warmth, care and respect that permeates throughout the school. Adults and pupils are listened to, valued and are confident to express their concerns because leaders act with compassion. Partnerships between the school and



families are built on mutual respect. Leaders are proactive in meeting the needs of the pupils and adults. The mental health and wellbeing of all is high priority and professionals support the school in this.

Leaders systematically monitor and evaluate some characteristics of being a Church school and this is having a positive impact on the decisions they make. Governors are knowledgeable, committed and enthusiastically support the school. A rigorous system to explicitly monitor and evaluate the impact of the vision is not established.

The unique Fladbury curriculum is shaped by the vision and provides rich learning experiences. An example of this, was the decision taken by leaders, to ensure pupils learn to swim due to living in close proximity to the river. Thoughtfully planned trips, taking account of the needs of the pupils, also enhance the curriculum. Careful reflection and planning has resulted in the vision being infused into all subject areas. Through discussions with pupils, leaders know that they are developing a love of learning. Pupils are inspired by the curriculum and are keen to explore their learning further at home.

Pupils understand the effect their actions have on others and the world in which they live. They were motivated to ask the headteacher if they could have extra recycling bins in the dining hall. They also made the decision to take part in a local litter picking workshop. Worship is also inspiring pupils to act as courageous advocates. After learning about the conflict in Ukraine, pupils collected items such as clothes and towels for refugees.

Those who are vulnerable and pupils with SEND get the support they need to enable them to learn well. The Christian vision is driving the decisions made for these pupils. Staff understand the needs of the pupils and have built positive relationships with their families. The determination of leaders, to provide support, so that all members of their community thrive is admirable. This extends to supporting pupils at home who are unable to attend school.

Opportunities for spiritual development are planned into the curriculum. Leaders have a clear understanding of the role they play in developing pupils' spirituality. However, pupils and adults are unable to articulate a shared language of spirituality and this limits spiritual flourishing.

The Christian vision shines through in the behaviour of the pupils, which is exemplary. Pupils respect each other and this is demonstrated in the cheerful interactions in the playground. They have the confidence to try and sort out problems that do occur. They also know that adults in school will listen to them and help them if needed.

The school's vision shapes collective worship and enables the pupils to reflect on the values of joy, wisdom and hope. Leaders recognise the importance of collective worship in enabling the school community to, 'live life to the full.' Adults and pupils cherish the time they spend together each day in collective worship. Opportunities for deep reflection are woven into daily acts of worship and this is supporting their spiritual development. Prayer holds a prominent place within worship. When pupils and adults with a range of faiths are invited to pray then they able to engage with integrity.

Partnerships enhance and enrich collective worship and the spiritual development of pupils. The links between the church and school are well established. All members of the school community appreciate and enjoy the time they spend worshipping in church when Christian festivals are celebrated. The 'Open the Book' team visit the school regularly and invite pupils to participate in worship bringing Bible stories to life.

The provision for RE is a priority in the school. Leaders ensure that it has a high profile within the



school and it is well resourced. Action planning together with monitoring of the subject informs the school development plan. A well sequenced curriculum enables pupils to learn about different religions and non-religious worldviews. Visits to places of worship enhance the curriculum. Pupils confidently share their thoughts in RE as it provides them with a safe space to share their ideas. Assessment systems are in place to inform the teaching and learning in RE. Leaders support staff in the teaching of this subject by providing continuing professional development. The impact of this has been to establish a curriculum that is accurate, relevant and diverse. However, the curriculum does not provide challenge for all pupils and this limits the progress that some pupils make.

Leaders at Fladbury Church of England First School work relentlessly to make sure the pupils and adults are happy and are given opportunities that will enable them to have a bright future.

The inspection findings indicate that Fladbury Church of England Voluntary Aided First School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information					
Inspection date	23 January 2024	URN			116879
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll			67
Diocese	Worcester				
MAT/Federation					
Headteacher	Julie Wilson				
Chair	John Powell				
Inspector	Judith Manns		No.	224	10