

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Christ Church Church of England Primary School, Kilburn	
Address	Clarence Road, Kilburn, London, NW6 7TG
How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	
Overall grade	Good
The impact of collective worship	Good
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Good

School's vision
<p>The school vision, as a Christian school, is to encourage everyone in our school community to excel in all they do and to grow in God's creation. Our vision is embedded within the Christian values of: Compassion, Respect, Friendship, Forgiveness, Perseverance, Wisdom. 'Going for Gold with Faith'. 2 Corinthians 8:7</p> <p>"But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, and in all eagerness and in the love from us that is in you – make sure that you excel in this act of kindness too."</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The vision that every pupil should flourish and fulfil their potential is deeply embedded in Christ Church's culture. Leaders have robust systems for monitoring and developing the school's Christian ethos. • The headteacher leads a strong staff team with compassion and kindness. In line with the Christian vision, they have made it a priority to nurture the wellbeing of everyone. • Pupils enjoy taking part in fund raising activities, particularly at a local level. However, their understanding of how their actions can improve the lives of others is limited. Projects to challenge social injustice on a wider scale are at an early stage of development. • Collective worship supports pupils and adults to grow spiritually and has a positive influence on pupils' behaviour and relationships. Opportunities for pupils to plan, lead and evaluate collective worship are limited. • Religious Education (RE) provision is a strength. As a result, pupils have a good knowledge and understanding of Christian belief and practice, as well as an understanding of a range of religions and worldviews. To ensure that this is sustained, the school is developing strategies to ensure consistency in practice.



Areas for development

- Broaden opportunities for pupils and adults to act as courageous advocates, who challenge injustice as part of a global community.
- Extend the role of pupils in planning, leading and evaluating collective worship. This will allow them to grow spiritually and gain a deeper understanding of the nature of Christian worship.
- Develop strategies to increase consistency of practice in RE, including sharing best practice with other schools.

Inspection findings

Christ Church Primary School is a good Church school, where the headteacher leads with compassion, wisdom and integrity. At its heart is its Christian vision of 'going for gold with faith'. A set of well-understood Christian values such as respect, perseverance, friendship and forgiveness link closely with the vision. This is a multi-cultural school where Christian love radiates from staff and where all beliefs are greatly respected. Parents of all faiths and worldviews value the Christian vision that nurtures their children to be the best they can be. Governors understand the needs of the school and readily refer to the vision in order for everyone to excel. It is considered in discussions and decisions, including financial spending, to shape development plans and actions. The Christian ethos committee is effective at monitoring the vision and the work of the school as a Church school.

In line with the Christian vision, the school provides a wide breadth of curriculum and learning opportunities. 'Big questions' are used effectively to allow pupils to investigate ethical and moral issues. An example is a humanities topic on migration undertaken by Year 4 pupils. Learning that resettlement has been going on for centuries helps pupils relate to what is happening around the world today. As a result, pupils are able to look beyond themselves and develop an understanding of disadvantage and deprivation. A secure understanding of spiritual development, along with planned opportunities across the curriculum, ensures all are able to flourish spiritually. Pupils show that they understand the importance of the school's Christian values. For instance, several relate how perseverance helps them to 'never give up' when faced with difficult situations, such as sitting their SATs tests.

Staff speak highly of the professional and personal wellbeing support provided by school leadership, including in times of challenge. Quality in-house coaching ensures that staff receive effective induction and individual training. Middle leaders are well-supported in their ongoing professional development, so that they too may excel. As a result, there is a clear understanding of their role in Church school education. Many progress through the school over time, gaining confidence and promotion as they 'go for gold' in their individual careers.

Through living out the Christian vision, pupils gain a sound understanding of inequality, difference and diversity. Pupils show care for the wider world by initiating fund raising projects for charities, sometimes selected by themselves. For instance, by donating food to a foodbank run by the local 'Laurence Larder' for the homeless. A national asthma charity is also supported. A Year 6 curriculum field work activity assesses the eco friendliness of the local area. These activities enable pupils to begin to understand that they can be advocates for change within their community and beyond. Leadership identify that this is an area that can be extended further. Links with the community are strong. This is evidenced by the way pupils wrote moving poems on a variety of topics and delivered them by hand to nearby homes. Members of the public were touched by this gesture and sent messages of gratitude to the school.


Driven by the Christian vision, relationships across the school community are positive, enabling pupils and adults to flourish. Pupils reflect on their behaviour and develop an authentic understanding of the importance of forgiveness. They describe how the language of the vision encourages them to choose the right path at playtimes. Where pupils disagree, the school's value of forgiveness supports reconciliation within relationships. As a result, behaviour is good across the school. Pupils' wellbeing is nurtured through effective partnerships with external agencies. Consequently, vulnerable pupils and those with special needs flourish. Adults' mental health is also carefully considered. There is a unity amongst the staff team irrespective of their role. They describe how wellbeing is given high priority. As a result, kindness and consideration are shown to everyone. This enables all to thrive in

a happy, respectful environment.

Prayer spaces in classrooms are valued by pupils and reflect their thoughts and questions. This means all ages can articulate the importance of prayer and reflection. Pupils readily explain that, although they may be from diverse backgrounds, they are 'friends with everyone'. All feel comfortable to pray or reflect regardless of their beliefs or worldviews.

Worship is the heartbeat of the school and is a strong expression of the vision. It is invitational and readily attended by the school community, including those of all faiths and none. Parents appreciate the 'moral compass' that collective worship provides for their children. Exploration of the vision and values in collective worship positively influences how pupils treat others. They show kindness and perseverance as a direct result of what they have seen and heard in collective worship. One pupil related how the story of the Good Samaritan taught them the importance of showing compassion. Worship is fully inclusive and offers pupils and adults a safe and invitational place to worship, reflect and pray. Strong links with the local church exist. Clergy provide valuable assistance for worship as well as pastoral support. Leaders, including governors, monitor worship regularly. However, pupils are not always actively engaged in planning or monitoring acts of worship.

RE reinforces the importance of the school's vision by enabling every pupil to excel and be the best they can be. Pupils learn through a range of activities which reflect Christianity as a living world faith. As pupils move through the school, they demonstrate a growing understanding of major world religions and worldviews. Creative termly RE days help to prioritise and raise the profile of the subject. The Diocese of London provides effective support for the development of RE. As a result, leaders flourish and pupils benefit from effective provision. Assessment regularly takes place. In order to sustain improvements and maintain best practice, the school is developing monitoring strategies, including working with other schools.

	The effectiveness of RE is	Good	
	<p>Regular monitoring shows that teaching and learning in RE are consistently good. The diocesan curriculum is used effectively and enhanced by training. Pupils recall and make links between prior and current learning. The curriculum is planned so that all pupils including those with special educational needs or who are vulnerable can access learning. The emphasis on discussion means they achieve and make at least expected progress.</p>		
Information			
School	Christ Church Church of England Primary School, Kilburn	Inspection date	16 May 2023
URN	101533	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided
Diocese/District	London	Pupils on roll	170
Headteacher	James Kelly		
Chair of Governors	Alison Schulte		
Inspector	Jenny Earp	No.	288