

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

All Saints Upton Church of England Primary School	
Address	Hough Green Road, Widnes, WA8 4PG
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

School's vision
<p>'Let all that you do be done in love.' 1 Corinthians 16:14</p> <p>By our faith and trust in the love of God, we aim to provide a school for our community where everyone experiences the joy of learning, peace in their hearts and hope for the future.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The recently reviewed and extremely effective Christian vision is at the heart of daily life. Together with the core Christian values, the vision ensures that love, peace and joy underpin the school's work. • Senior leaders have an unwavering commitment to the development of the school as a Church school. They have the support of experienced and dedicated governors. • All members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect. Consequently, relationships are extremely strong. The school's nurturing ethos ensures that every individual feels safe and loved as a unique child of God. • Worship is at the centre of the school day and is inclusive and inspirational. However, pupils do not have a full role in the planning and leading of worship. • Strong leadership of religious education (RE) ensures that the subject is taught with commitment and enthusiasm. However, there is some repetition within units of work. This prevents pupils from gaining deeper meaning in their learning.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed monitoring and evaluation of the Christian vision to support its development into the future. • Further develop pupils' role in the planning and leading of worship to enhance their understanding and spiritual development. • Ensure the sequence of learning in RE deepens pupils' understanding.



Inspection findings

In a relatively short period of time, senior leaders and governors have developed a compelling Christian vision. This is rooted in biblical teaching and the school's context in an area experiencing significant disadvantage. The vision inspires all members of the school community to live in Christian love. It promotes joy, peace, and hope. The core Christian values reinforce this. They are a constant reminder of how the school community should live together in love.

Highly effective Christian leadership enables staff and governors to serve the school community. Senior leaders are secure in their knowledge of current thinking in Church school education. This means that Christian distinctiveness, school improvement strategies and provision for the needs of all are central. Staff take full advantage of the many opportunities offered to develop their professional and leadership skills. As a result, the school actively enables them to flourish. Members of the governing body bring a range of knowledge and skills to their role. They welcome opportunities for training so that they can carry out their strategic responsibilities to the full. Systems for monitoring and evaluation are rigorous. As a result, governors are able to offer well-informed challenge and support. The school has a positive relationship with the diocese and takes advantage of opportunities for training and advice. The well-established partnership with the parish church enhances learning and spiritual opportunities for all pupils.

The Christian vision informs curriculum planning, encouraging 'the joy of learning'. Staff constantly consider the context of the school in order to broaden learning experiences. As a result, pupils can develop their unique skills and abilities in a safe and peaceful environment. A culture of challenge and perseverance encourages all to do their best and experience success. The needs of every individual are met through Christian love and care. This leads to academic, physical, emotional and spiritual flourishing. The school places great importance on incorporating social, moral, spiritual and cultural development as a thread across the curriculum. This holistic approach is clearly rooted in the Christian vision. Pupils, including the most vulnerable, experience the joy of learning and build hope for the future. The wide range of intervention strategies, mentoring, emotional support, and nurture provision enables all pupils to build confidence. Extra-curricular activities are wide ranging. They raise pupils' aspirations and support the development of skills and interests. As a result, pupils explore spiritual dimensions and develop positive character traits.

Through its Christian vision, the school provides an inclusive community built on mutual respect and trust. The focus on care and love drives its approach to positive behaviour strategies and helping pupils to make good choices. As a result, they respond well and understand the need for forgiveness and reconciliation. Pupils are given the opportunity to share thoughts and feelings, developing the ability to live well together. The school's rigorous approach to attendance means that there is significant support for families when problems arise. There is a keen awareness of the duty to promote good mental health and wellbeing. The school reaches out to all members of its community. It takes full advantage of the skills within the staff team and the support of outside agencies. Consequently, All Saints is a haven of pastoral care not only for pupils but for everyone.

Pupils have many opportunities to demonstrate and develop their leadership skills. The school council, worship warriors and buddies make a positive contribution to the daily life of the school. Pupils are quick to respond to the needs of others beyond their community. The school encourages pupils to speak up for those in need and take action. Picture News and UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools status enable pupils to broaden their understanding of the world and its needs. The school uses Philosophy for Children. Through this initiative,

pupils develop thinking skills and the ability to communicate with others. They also reflect on many topical issues. As a result, pupils develop an understanding of debate and resolution and the importance of looking outward in a responsible way. Furthermore, pupils explore and demonstrate the school's core Christian values in different contexts.

Collective worship is central to the daily life of the school. It is planned to include biblical teaching and the exploration of Christian values. Major festivals and saints' days are also incorporated. Worship is invitational and inclusive. It offers opportunities to engage on a personal level and grow spiritually. All members of the school community enjoy worship and find it inspirational. A range of experiences as a whole school, in key stages and as classes ensures that worship remains vibrant. Pupils visit the parish church for major festivals and the parish priest leads worship in school on a weekly basis. This gives a sense of belonging to the wider Christian community. Pupils participate enthusiastically whilst maintaining a sense of reverence. Responses, music, reflection and prayer develop understanding of the elements of worship. Classroom reflection areas add a further dimension to opportunities for prayerfulness. Pupils have an age-appropriate understanding of the Christian belief in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. This is reinforced through the presence of a cross, Bible and candle on all reflection tables. However, the school is in the early stages of developing pupils' involvement in planning and leading worship.

RE provision reflects the Church of England Statement of Entitlement and enables pupils to reflect on their own religious and spiritual convictions. The subject leader ensures that the school's Christian vision and values are threaded through the units of work. Pupils are engaged and enjoy their learning. Staff use a variety of teaching styles, resources and artefacts to enhance pupils' experiences. As a result, they respond with enthusiasm and are confident to share their ideas and opinions. They explore religious texts, discuss theological ideas and answer challenging questions. Some units of work in which pupils revisit prior learning do not always provide sufficient depth to enhance knowledge and understanding.

Upton All Saints is a sanctuary of Christian love. The school ensures that everyone is given the care and opportunities needed to flourish.

Information			
School	All Saints Upton Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	6 March 2023
URN	131217	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Liverpool	Pupils on roll	203
Headteacher	Jeanette Davies		
Chair of Governors	Peter Dawkins		
Inspector	Jean Forward	No.	625