

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Moreton Say Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Moreton Say, Market Drayton, TF9 3RS
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>As we journey together, we learn to live as good neighbours, demonstrating love, compassion, dignity and respect to all our communities. Through this we aspire to become global citizens, courageous advocates and people of wisdom and integrity.</p> <p>'Love your neighbour as yourself' - Parable of the Good Samaritan Luke 10:25-37</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Led by the vision, leaders, including governors, make strategic decisions to move the school forward. This provides enriching learning experiences for pupils. • The school is a place where love and kindness are extended to all. The school's vision is lived out and lives are changed as people are empowered to be the best that they can be. • The school is seeking creative ways to explore and express the theological roots of its vision and values. How this impacts on the school is not always clear to the wider community. • Collective worship is led enthusiastically and pupils enjoy responding. There is some variety of worship style but this is still developing to have a deeper impact on spiritual development. • The teaching of Religious Education (RE) has been reviewed so that pupils are able to embed a deeper understanding of world religions and worldviews.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the school's Christian vision and values clear so that the wider community can appreciate the source of the school's love and kindness. • Develop creative ways of worshipping so that pupils can appreciate and enjoy a wide breadth of Christian worship. • Provide more inspirational opportunities for spontaneous reflection and prayer to further enhance pupils' spiritual development and wellbeing.



Inspection findings

Led by its biblically based vision Moreton Say Church of England Primary School is journeying forward with 'delight and great expectation'. Leaders, including the school's governing body, work in partnership with the Diocese of Lichfield to secure and build upon its Christian foundations. As a result, there is a deep commitment to a distinctively Christian education that is for every pupil regardless of their faith or worldview. They are resolute about preparing pupils in this small rural school for a wider world of diversity. There is a culture of cheerfulness and commitment that is appreciated by pupils and adults alike. These are infectious and as a result, everyone is nurtured in an environment of calm, colour and laughter.

A Christian vision to love everyone as a 'neighbour' is lived out and has transformed the lives of staff and pupils. Staff say there is an openness and honesty in relationships. A great sense of trust and fulfilment motivates the staff to be the best that they can be for every child. In this harmonious atmosphere pupils feel safe, enjoy learning and want to give of their best. This is evidenced through pupil outcomes, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). The manner of care for each pupil illuminates a Christ-like way of life and service. In turn, this is reflected in the considerate behaviour and attitudes of pupils. Pupils demonstrate that everyone has the right to shine in their own special way by treating each other with respect and dignity. When there is disagreement pupils understand the importance of forgiveness and can connect it to words from the Lord's Prayer. The school's governors and staff are resolute about preparing pupils in this small rural school for a wider world of diversity. Governors have taken responsibility for providing a well-resourced nursery to strengthen education within the community. The curriculum has been revisited to ensure that every subject reflects the diversity of the world and its people. In this way pupils are developing a better understanding of who their 'neighbour' is.

The school's federation with another small, rural Church of England Primary school, enriches the lives of staff and pupils. Staff share expertise and training to raise the quality of teaching and learning across both schools. Pupils benefit from shared experiences such as visits to cities which build greater confidence as well as an appreciation of diversity. Leaders work together to improve how well pupils understand religions and worldviews. A culture of learning that encourages curiosity, questioning and debate has been established across the curriculum which has impacted positively on RE lessons. Pupils reflect and discuss big questions in a safe and honest environment. They listen carefully and demonstrate respect for everyone's thoughts and viewpoints. Consequently, there is a significant contribution to individual spiritual development. However, because the revised planning for RE is not fully embedded older pupils have some misunderstandings about aspects of world faiths and viewpoints. Link governors have highly effective systems for ensuring that the school is deepening its effectiveness as a Church school. Together, they have both the policies and the practice that ensure everyone is welcome. Parents are grateful for the excellent way that the school communicates with them. They know that the school values their opinions. However, there is a lack of clarity on the school's website and in public documents about the school's Christian vision and values. Therefore, the wider school community is not always clear about what motivates the depth and extent of its love and kindness.

There are long-established and positive mutual relationships with the local parish church. Over time, the school and church have found new ways of working together. Church members who are also foundation governors are valued by the school. They are committed to ensuring that the school thrives as a place of Christian encouragement and hope. Church members who are also foundation governors are valued by the school. Many opportunities

are provided to support pupil wellbeing. However, specific inspirational spaces and places to nurture spiritual development through reflection and prayer are few. The school works closely with the diocese to improve its provision for pupils to flourish spiritually. As a result, a school chaplain is playing a vital role in securing a Christian understanding of the school's vision and values. Pupils benefit from a weekly 'Little Samaritans' group where they deepen their understanding of how Jesus lived and showed love for everyone. The chaplain also enables pupils to enjoy 'Faith in the Forest' sessions. The outdoor environment of the school is the setting for pupils to explore the wonder of God's world. Pupils are bold in their response to make a difference by being ambassadors to care for the world as responsible global citizens.

The school's values of respect, hopefulness, kindness, courage, integrity, and curiosity are being established. They are taken as the themes for collective worship. Bible stories help pupils to understand the school's vision. However, not all of the school's values are deeply rooted in Christian belief including the teachings of Jesus. Therefore, pupils have not had the opportunity to reflect on and express a Christian understanding of values, such as hope. The school is eager to develop worship so that pupils can appreciate a greater variety of worship styles. The story of 'The Good Samaritan' is well known and impacts on the way that everyone goes out of their way to meet the needs of others. This is demonstrated within school and extends to the wider community. Pupils took their Harvest gifts to a food bank and learned about how the needs of local people were being met. As a result, pupils are taking action to maintain their loving acts of kindness. The wider school community rejoices in coming together in the church to celebrate Christian festivals such as Christmas and Easter. School families recognise the school as a 'big-hearted neighbour' walking with them in times of need. They appreciate how the school's Christian vision enables pupils to reach out to others with self-belief, love and kindness as they journey on.

Information			
School	Moreton Say Church of England VC Primary School	Inspection date	6 February 2023
URN	123485	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Lichfield	Pupils on roll	100
MAT/Federation	The Addmore Federation		
Executive Headteacher	Stephanie Henney		
Chair of Governors	Jenny Nixon		
Inspector	Angela Daniel	No.	757