

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Horbury St Peter and Clifton Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Shepstye Road, Horbury, Wakefield, WF4 5BE
School vision	
<p>Following St Peter's example of faith, commitment and strength, we promote happiness, self-regulation, high self-esteem and confidence, so we can be prepared to handle new situations and accept the challenges of life. Rooted in God's call to love each other and ourselves, we welcome and value everyone as unique, exploring cultures and beliefs together.</p> <p>'Love each other deeply with all your heart'</p> <p>1 Peter 1:22</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's Christian vision is understood throughout the school community. It underpins decision making and supports pupils and adults to flourish in their daily lives. • This is a highly inclusive school where all are welcomed and valued as unique individuals, made in the image of God. • Strategic support for pupil wellbeing is highly effective. Adults are committed to ensuring that the most vulnerable flourish. • Pupils behave well towards one another, even when it is difficult. They are supported effectively by adults who promote respect, forgiveness and self-regulation. • Collective worship is highly valued and offers a range of opportunities for spiritual growth. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that key knowledge is identified at each stage in the religious education (RE) curriculum so that pupils are well prepared for their future learning. • Develop monitoring so that school leaders, including governors, are assured that the RE curriculum is having the desired impact. • Ensure that pupil-led opportunities are facilitated so that pupils experience being agents for change in the world around them. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>The vision of Horbury St Peter and Clifton Church of England Primary School is firmly rooted in the needs of its pupils, staff and wider community. This well-understood, Christian vision underpins decision making for school leaders at all levels. It has guided governors when making difficult choices and when monitoring school effectiveness. Pupils are clear that the school's vision and values teach them how to live well. The school's long-established SPIRIT values are embedded into the curriculum. As a result, pupils grow in their understanding of each value and are explicitly taught</p>	

how to apply them. More recently, the school has worked closely with the diocese. The impact of this support on the work of the school as a Church school is clear to see.

Collective worship is carefully planned and sequenced. Pupils are supported to explore biblical themes and relate them to their own lives and to events in their community. Thoughtful questions enable pupils to explore their own beliefs and those of others. School leaders have formed a committed partnership with the local church which is mutually beneficial. Church members provide engaging and inspiring weekly worship. Many pupils are grateful for the opportunity to explore their ideas further in St Peter's Church's youth groups. Within school, collective worship is varied, providing multiple opportunities for spiritual growth. Pupils and adults are moved by the joyful singing. Some see their singing as a response to challenge, others as an offering of thanks to God. Pupils have an active part in facilitating worship and their roles are supporting them to develop spiritually. For example, some reflect on how elements of their role reminds them that God's love travels with them wherever they go. Reflection areas in some classrooms are inviting and well used. In these examples, pupils benefit from the opportunity to reflect and respond to worship themes. Some also find comfort and inspiration in Biblical teaching.

RE has a high profile within the school and pupils enjoy their RE lessons. They have a clear understanding of why it is important to learn about people's beliefs and how they affect their lives. Pupils particularly enjoy purposeful visits to the local church to support their curriculum learning. These visits have had a positive impact on their understanding of the Christian faith. The curriculum is balanced, teaching a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. However, it does not clearly identify the key knowledge to be taught and retained at each stage. As a result, pupils do not effectively build on their knowledge over time. Leaders have sought development through training and effective partnerships. This has supported them to identify the strengths and areas of development of their own curriculum. However, monitoring does not enable them to have an accurate assessment of the impact of their curriculum. School leaders are, therefore, not assured of its effectiveness.

Horbury St Peter and Clifton Church of England Primary is highly inclusive and welcomes pupils from a wide area. Leaders are clear that the school's ambitious vision applies to everyone. This vision brings cohesion to an increasingly diverse community, fostering a sense of unity whilst embracing their differences. The most vulnerable benefit from dedicated and strategically planned support that enables them to flourish. School leaders, including governors, are diligent in monitoring the impact of these decisions. Committed governors have invested significantly to provide social and emotional support that enables pupils to self-regulate and build confidence. Targeted intervention and support has been transformative in enabling vulnerable pupils to use their voice well and to know that it matters. Many of these pupils have been successfully supported and encouraged to take up leadership responsibilities within school. In turn, these pupils act as excellent role models to others.

The school is calm and purposeful. In line with the school's Christian vision, pupils behave well towards another. They are explicitly taught how to do this as well as learning from adults who act as strong role models. Leaders ensure that these skills lie at the heart of curriculum decision making and provide specialist support where needed. As the vision demands, pupils indeed 'value everyone as unique.' They welcome the idea that everyone brings something a little different to their school community. The recently revised behaviour policy places forgiveness and the school's SPIRIT values at its heart. This approach to promoting positive behaviour is underpinned by the school's Christian vision and a deep sense of care towards one another.

This care extends to families who are well supported as partners in their children's education. Effective signposting and multi-agency support is in place where needed, enabling all to flourish. Thoughtful decisions have been made by school leaders to support staff wellbeing. Strategies that

have been put in place ensure that the committed adults who nurture their pupils also feel cared for.

Pupils have the opportunity to serve their school and local community and are enthusiastic about doing so. They have a keen understanding that making a difference can start by being an inspirational role model. As an outpouring of the school's Christian vision, pupils, including the most vulnerable, are taught to value themselves. The school's curriculum gives children a strong sense of justice. They are deeply concerned about a range of issues within their local and global communities. Pupils from Early Years onwards can confidently articulate these issues. Pupil leadership opportunities enable them to make a tangible difference to those around them. These opportunities are almost always the result of adult decisions and suggestions. As a result, pupils do not see themselves as independent agents of change.

St Peter's example of faith, commitment and strength provides a secure bedrock on which to continue to build on the successes of this caring school.

The inspection findings indicate that Horbury St Peter and Clifton Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	2 May 2024	URN	136005
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	433
Diocese	Leeds		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Alison Halley		
Chair	Andrew York		
Inspector	Vikki Wilson	No.	2249