

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Trinity Church of England / Methodist Primary School, Buckshaw Village

Address

Unity Place, Buckshaw Village, Chorley, PR7 7HZ

School vision

John 10:10 that states that Jesus 'came so that we may have life, life in all its fullness'. Through this we aim to provide all children, staff and families with the opportunity to thrive, develop and grow so that they can truly live a life in all its fullness in the Christian understanding that through Jesus' death on the cross, we can be free to live a life just how he planned for us. On a daily basis, this means that all children are given equal opportunities to learn, experience and thrive. We aim that all children should be able to leave our school equipped to succeed in modern life today.

School strengths

- Intrinsic to school life, the deeply embedded Christian vision powerfully shapes the school's culture. Vibrant Church school partnerships lead to rich collaborations that enhance its work.
- Leaders' passion for the life affirming Christian vision drives their approach to the varied curriculum which is alive with engaging experiences. As a result, pupils access learning that enables them to flourish academically, physically, mentally and spiritually. This equips them to live 'life in all its fullness'.
- Thoughtful and precise leadership of religious education (RE) results in an engaging, balanced and accessible curriculum. It inspires pupils to think deeply and respond creatively.
- Joyous and dynamic collective worship vitalizes pupils and adults, offering inclusive and invitational opportunities to encounter the teachings of Jesus. Insightful exploration of Bible stories, prayer, reflection and engagement with meaningful questions enable people to deepen their spiritual lives.
- Relationships, characterised by kindness, underpin support for the mental health and wellbeing of pupils and adults. This results in a culture of belonging that flows between both school sites and into the wider community.

Areas for development

- Share the school's excellent vision driven practice, and rich understanding of Church school leadership, more widely.
- Strengthen pupils' understanding of justice as an expression of the vision in order to enrich their work as courageous advocates.

Inspection findings

Integral to the work of the school is the vitalizing vision to live 'life in all its fullness'. Passionate leaders, including governors, treasure the biblical roots underpinning this aim. Christian beliefs about the intrinsic worth of every individual motivate leaders to bring the vision to fruition. They



monitor and evaluate its effectiveness through systems for Church school improvement. Consequently, the ambition for 'life in all its fullness' shapes school policy and drives the decisions of leaders. For example, governors released funds to build the 'Trinity Centre', a space designed to serve families more comprehensively. This enables events such as drop-in sessions to support parents of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Pupils joyfully articulate the vision's significance. It inspires them to experience new opportunities and make the most of life. They connect this to Christian ideas about the fullness of life.

Anglican and Methodist partners work cohesively together, creating extensive opportunities for engagement with local churches. For example, 'Lego club' enables pupils to express their creativity while enjoying informal opportunities to discuss worship with church leaders. Church engagement nourishes pupils' spiritual development and deepens their understanding of how Christians live. High-quality online training with the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust (MAST) prompts governors to develop their thinking about people's spiritual growth. Leaders work closely with Blackburn Diocese to access highly effective training and support that informs Church school development. Visits from a range of Anglican and Methodist clergy beyond the locality enrich pupils' connection to the wider church. Thus, excellent Church school partnerships strengthen the way the vision is lived out on a daily basis.

Pupils access a varied, innovative and exciting vision driven curriculum that enables them to thrive. Cross-curricular experiences maximise engagement and make learning accessible. Careful consideration of each subject area ensures it reflects the vision and provides opportunities for spiritual development. Consequently, pupils are inspired to foster their imagination, develop curiosity, be creative and enjoy moments of awe and wonder. Personal reflection encourages them to consider how their learning relates to themselves, others and the world. A wide range of enrichment activities and extracurricular clubs enhances pupils' life experiences and broadens their view of the world. Leaders ensure these opportunities apply to all by overcoming any barriers to participation.

Well-resourced and skilfully led RE is highly valued by pupils and adults. Leaders ensure the balanced and progressive curriculum reflects the school's context. Pupils relish the opportunity to explore a range of world religions and worldviews, including Christianity as a diverse global faith. Visitors, experience days and learning about inspiring people of faith enable them to understand the lived reality of believers. They confidently articulate a secure understanding of Christian theology and enjoy making connections between Bible stories. Pupils keenly absorb new learning that prompts insightful questions and deepens their thinking. Rich opportunities to respond creatively to learning reflect the depth of their understanding. For example, one pupil wrote a moving poem demonstrating personal hope in response to studying themes of light and darkness. Staff access regular and pertinent training that supports the delivery of high-quality RE. Accurate assessment, effectively monitored, informs teaching and guides the precise actions of leaders. Pupils, including those who have SEND, are equipped to access learning effectively. For example, identified pupils receive support to develop religious vocabulary through sensory activities before a text is introduced. As a result, the vast majority of pupils make good, or better, progress in RE.

Through joyous and life affirming collective worship, people are invited, without compulsion, to encounter the teachings of Jesus. Pupils consider how these relate to the vision to live 'life in all its fullness'. They enter worship with a tangible sense of excitement about what they may 'hear about God and from God.' Pupils and adults with a range of beliefs enjoy worship as a trusted place of peace and connection with others. Suggestions from the pupil worship group are incorporated into comprehensive and carefully considered worship plans that ensure consistency of delivery. Bible stories are creatively explored to help people contemplate Christian concepts and grapple with big questions. Pupils seek meaning through worship that inspires them to emulate Jesus in their



actions. They express delight in the profound sense of comfort and spiritual connection they gain through worship. Meaningful opportunities for prayer, reflection and spiritual conversation continue beyond worship into lessons, playtime, clubs and the wider community. Staff appreciate weekly opportunities for prayer with church partners. Consequently, pupils and adults cherish deeply engaging and thought-provoking worship that for many results in spiritual transformation.

The vision motivates leaders to create a culture of service to others and the world. A dynamic link with Buckshaw Retirement Village supports pupils to serve and be served within their locality. They broaden their view of cultures beyond their own as pen pals with pupils at a school in Poland. Through worship, and across the curriculum, pupils encounter a range of diverse role models and explore themes of injustice. In response, they take action such as selling crafts to raise awareness, sponsored activities, litter picks and food bank collections. Pupils identify issues they care about, and address these with people in power. Work on climate change inspired them to engage with their member of parliament to highlight possible local actions. As a result of research, letters and presentations to senior leaders, pupils successfully campaign to shape environmental changes within school. For example, establishing 'meat free Monday' lunches. Thus, pupils develop as agents of change with a strong sense of responsibility towards serving others and the planet. Christian values guide their intentions but pupils do not articulate explicit links between the vision and their work on justice.

Relationships powerfully demonstrate leaders' uncompromising desire for all to experience 'life in all its fullness'. Leaders and staff know their pupils well. High-quality training on mental health ensures staff identify and address barriers to flourishing through a host of pastoral support systems. This results in increased pupil attendance, raises pupil confidence and enhances people's emotional health. Personal, social, health and economic education and PE lessons equip pupils to develop wellbeing strategies and prepare for the future. During difficult times pupils, parents and staff deeply appreciate the kindness and wealth of support they receive from school. One pupil articulated how he experiences the vision through regular check-ins with a staff member that 'fill your cup up'. The vision is fulfilled for staff through wide-ranging opportunities for career development and a rich offering of wellbeing enhancements. Consequently, the vision creates a loving culture where people gain a strong sense of belonging and live life to the full.

The inspection findings indicate that Trinity Church of England / Methodist Primary School, Buckshaw Village is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information					
Inspection date	23 April 2024	URN		135860)
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll		615	
Diocese	Blackburn / Lancashire Methodist District				
MAT/Federation					
Headteacher	Jill R Wright				
Chair	Ellen Monk Winstanley				
Inspector	Ali Rice		No.	2103	