

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

All Saints Church of England (VA) Infant School

Vision

Our school Christian vision 'learning with love and laughter' is underpinned by the belief that every day is a gift from God to be lived in joy. 'This is the day that the Lord has made let us rejoice and be glad in it.' Psalm 118:24

Our biblical values of love, respect and forgiveness mirror our understanding of the relationship between God and people and are integral to everything we do, creating a learning environment where every person is loved and loving, respected and respectful and can give and receive forgiveness.

All Saints Church of England (VA) Infant School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Strengths

- 'Learning with love and laughter' resounds throughout the work of the school. The Christian vision anchors leaders' decision making creating a school where pupils and adults readily act with love, respect and forgiveness.
- The school 'pledge' is the cornerstone of the highly effective curriculum. There is a shared understanding of spirituality that has been refined over time. As a result, spirituality is intrinsically embedded throughout.
- Worship is a pillar of the school. It has a profound impact that inspires pupils to consider the widest possible horizons for their lives. Partnerships with the parish church deeply enhance the spiritual development of participants.
- The school's loving culture gives dignity to all. Pupils recognise injustice and speak out for change.
- The quality and provision for religious education (RE) is rapidly developing an exemplary curriculum. The recently renewed scheme of work is effectively structured and diverse. This allows pupils every opportunity to make significant progress in their learning.

Development Points

- Embed and monitor the renewed RE curriculum so that its impact is deepened and sustained.



Inspection Findings

At All Saints, 'learning with love and laughter' permeates all aspects of school life. This is because the vision is understood and enacted by the whole school community. It is expressed through the Christian values of love, respect and forgiveness, which are widely known throughout the school. Together, the vision and values underpin a distinctive atmosphere. This is most effectively shown by the quality of relationships at All Saints. Through consistent modelling and reinforcement, pupils and adults are empowered to aim high and take risks. The school is a community where people are valued and supported. Leaders, including governors, actively ensure the vision is a 'golden thread,' influencing policies and practices. The vision promotes a sense of belonging, enabling individuals to develop their full potential within a spiritually enriching context.

The school's 'pledge' is the cornerstone of the dynamic curriculum. It emphasises community and global citizenship resulting in rich opportunities for awe and wonder. The curriculum is thoughtfully designed so that it effectively connects content across subjects. This means pupils have a learning experience which is rich and engaging. Adaptation for pupils with special educational needs and or disabilities (SEND) and other vulnerabilities is seamless. All pupils learn effectively together, working side by side. Provision goes beyond academic achievement, focusing on rounded development of the whole pupil. For example, the range of texts used across the curriculum is carefully chosen to reflect key Christian values. This allows pupils to engage with themes of love, respect, and forgiveness in a meaningful way. The school's Christian vision is visible across the curriculum. This ensures spiritual development for pupils is threaded throughout. The curriculum fosters a sense of global citizenship, encouraging pupils to understand their role in the wider world.

Collective worship is a powerful contributor to the spiritual flourishing of pupils and adults at All Saints. It is inclusive and engaging, providing opportunities for reflection, invitational prayer, and contemplation. High-quality published resources enable the school community to appreciate the meaning of Bible stories and the school's values. Pupils participate with enthusiasm, fostering a sense of ownership and engagement. Striking examples include the use of 'call and respond' and frequent paired talk. The weekly church services, attended by the whole school community, provide a shared experience of worship and fellowship. Pupils plan and lead an annual Easter service. This enables them to understand how the Christian vision inclusively underpins the life of the school. The impact of worship is further enhanced by the careful use of visual and audio resources. It is a safe space for reflection and spiritual growth.

The 'family first' leadership approach emphasises the importance of relationships and mutual support. As a result, the school has a nurturing environment where everyone feels valued. Pupils and adults are treated with dignity and respect on a daily basis. A culture of kindness and compassion floods the school. A rich expression of this is the school's relationships and behaviour policy. Grounded in love, respect and forgiveness, it promotes positive interactions and fosters a tangible sense of community. As a result, conduct in and out of the classroom by pupils is exemplary. Mental health and well-being are prioritised, with a dedicated practitioner providing support to pupils and staff. This helps the school express its vision to 'rejoice and be glad', even at times of difficulty. Staff value their role in the life of the school. They act with compassion for pupils and each other as a result. Robust safeguarding procedures ensure that everyone feels safe and protected.

At All Saints there is an active culture of justice and responsibility. In accordance with the vision to be loving and respectful, pupils are encouraged to think critically about social issues. They regularly take action to make a positive difference in the world. The school actively supports local and global charities, demonstrating a commitment to



social justice and compassion. The curriculum includes opportunities to learn about diverse cultures and to reflect on issues of inequality and injustice. As a result, pupils seek to be responsible stewards of the environment, promoting sustainability and conservation. A particular strength is how selected pupils model this to their peers through the 'school parliament'. This provides opportunities to develop leadership skills and to advocate for positive change. Recent examples include planning a vegetable patch and advocating for improved reflection areas. Pupils express concern for justice and environmental issues, actively participating in litter collection and energy conservation. Through the commitment of the school to pupil voice, the school actively promotes the concept of courageous advocacy. This empowers pupils to speak out against injustice and to stand up for what is right.

The RE curriculum provides pupils with a broad and balanced understanding of world faiths including Christianity and non-religious worldviews. Pupils show impressive religious literacy and interfaith understanding. The recently renewed curriculum is thoughtfully planned, with dedicated time and resources allocated to RE teaching. Staff demonstrate strong subject knowledge which means lessons are delivered effectively. They are supported to implement the curriculum by clear plans and high expectations. The RE lead provides effective support and guidance, ensuring that all staff are confident in their teaching. The school maintains a close partnership with the Diocesan Board of Education, ensuring high-quality RE provision. The curriculum is regularly reviewed and updated to reflect best practice and to meet the needs of all pupils. Assessment practices are robust, ensuring that pupils make good progress and develop a deep understanding of the concepts taught. The school's commitment to continuous improvement ensures that RE remains a high priority. Pupils are curious and eager to learn. They show high confidence when describing and recalling their prior learning, indicating the effectiveness of the curriculum.

Information

Address	Brownlow Road, Reading, RG1 6NP		
Date	6th March 2025	URN	109945
Type of school	Voluntary Aided	No. of pupils	60
Diocese/District	Oxford		
MAT/Federation	N/A		
Headteacher	Susannah Daniel		
Chair of Governors	Steve Daniels		
Inspector	Andy Higgs		