

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Glazebury Church of England VA Primary School	
Address	Warrington Road, Warrington, WA3 5LZ
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	Excellent
The impact of collective worship	Excellent
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Excellent

School's vision
<p>'Growing together at the heart of God's community.'</p> <p>H-Helping children to prepare for life, growing with God</p> <p>E-Embracing Christian Values</p> <p>A-Achievement for all</p> <p>R-Reading at the heart of our school</p> <p>T-Teaching a knowledge rich curriculum</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's exceptional Christian vision is deeply rooted in a theology of love and wisdom. This leads to an aspirational and inclusive learning environment in which all are nurtured as children of God. • The headteacher and senior leaders have a relentless Christian commitment to the development of the school. They are supported by dedicated staff and well-informed and experienced governors. As a result, bold and strategic decisions are made in the interests of all as they 'grow together at the heart of God's community'. • Relationships in the school community are founded in Christian love and the spontaneous sharing of the school's HEART vision and values. As a result, all are made welcome and valued as the school serves its community through goodness. • Collective worship is rooted in biblical teaching and the exploration of Christian values. It is inspirational and has a transformative effect on the spiritual lives of pupils and adults. Pupils have roles within the daily liturgy but do not plan and lead worship more independently. • The balanced and progressive religious education (RE) curriculum is underpinned by highly effective leadership practice. This supports excellent teaching and ensures that all pupils, even the most vulnerable, have rich learning experiences.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further develop pupils' involvement in preparing and leading collective worship in order to deepen spiritual awareness and an understanding of the key elements of the school's liturgy.



Inspection findings

The school's highly individual Christian vision permeates every aspect of its work and is a constant reference point. The HEART vision is known and articulated by every member of the school community. The school is exceptional in the way it lives out its Christian vision and values to meet the needs of individual pupils and their families. Senior leaders are secure in their knowledge of current thinking in Church school education and all staff take advantage of opportunities to develop their professional knowledge and skills. Members of the governing body are involved in the daily life of the school. Systems for monitoring and evaluation are rigorous and are set within the context of the Christian vision. As a result, governors are able to offer well-informed challenge and support and the school's self-evaluation secures highly effective practice. The school's partnerships with the academy trust and its schools, the diocese and the parish church are rooted in outward looking generosity and mutual flourishing. In particular, the school embraces opportunities to share expertise and be involved in the development of the trust.

The school's Christian vision and values drive all decisions concerning the curriculum. This leads to innovative and bold development secure in the understanding that 'the Lord gives wisdom' (Proverbs 2: 6). The curriculum is knowledge rich, balanced, progressive and aspirational. It is underpinned by a commitment to develop pupils' spiritual response to the world around them and to new learning experiences. A culture of deep reflection enables pupils to express awe and wonder as their knowledge and understanding of the world develop. The school seeks to give all pupils the opportunity to thrive and become independent learners. As a result, pupils are enthusiastic about their learning and want to do their best. A wealth of enrichment activities and extra-curricular opportunities develop pupils' skills and interests, opening the door to new experiences and widening horizons. Inclusion is at the heart of the school's vision as it seeks success for all. This is reflected in the wide range of intervention strategies, nurturing provision and pastoral care which have a positive influence on pupils' resilience and flourishing. A rigorous and unwavering approach to attendance has resulted in pupils' valuing their time in school.

The school's emphasis on Christian care and love through the HEART vision drives its approach to positive behaviour strategies. As a result, pupils respond well and understand the need for forgiveness and reconciliation. The community embraces Christian values as a guide and support day by day. Wholeness is made real for all members of the community as they live out the biblical reference 'Love never fails' (1 Corinthians 13: 8). The curriculum for personal, social and health education has a positive effect on pupils' development and understanding as it is firmly linked to the school's context. Giving pupils opportunities to take on responsibilities through various groups and committees encourages discussion and decision-making. Consequently, pupils live well together and understand the unique value of every individual. Relationships across the community are outstanding because all are valued and know that positive wellbeing and mental health are fundamental to the school's Christian ethos.

All members of the school community demonstrate Christian compassion and concern for justice in local and global settings. The use of the 'Picture News' learning resource provides opportunities to discuss world events and enables pupils to focus on big questions. Pupils are aware of how they too can engage in supporting a range of charities and global initiatives. As a result of the school's commitment to raising awareness of injustice and disadvantage, pupils respond with generosity and compassion. They can explain why this is important as part of leading a Christian life. Ethos group members lead the school in decisions about charitable giving. They are about to launch awareness of Toilet Twinning. The school



demonstrates transformational Christian service through courageous social action in its relationships with families and the local community. A range of diversity days and participation in Black History month, anti-bullying week and mental health initiatives ensure that all are treated with dignity and respect.


The school's link with the parish church is widely acknowledged and valued by the whole community. The school's Christian vision is displayed in the church and the headteacher attends meetings of the parochial church council to share the school's work. The partnership is further enhanced by the Little Saints worship activities which take place on Saturday mornings and a range of church events. As a result, school families can become increasingly involved in the Christian community in Glazebury.

Inspirational collective worship has a transformative effect on pupils and adults. It is invitational and highly inclusive, and challenges all to reflect on deep Christian principles. Planning is thorough and incorporates biblical teaching, Christian values and the major festivals of the Church's year. Pupils and staff take inspiration from the teaching of Jesus and the ways in which Christian values can transform lives. Constant reference is made to the school's Christian vision with emphasis on God's unchanging love and wisdom. Prayer plays an important part in the daily life of the school. It is enhanced by interactive classroom reflection areas and outdoor spaces which are a natural extension of the school's spiritual life. As a result, the pupils have a clear understanding of what it means to have a conversation with God. Joyful singing enhances pupils' experience and worship songs are chosen carefully to reflect the overall themes and seasons. Pupils worship in the parish church for major festivals and the parish priest regularly leads worship in school. Older pupils have the opportunity to experience eucharistic worship. Pupils enjoy worship and participate enthusiastically whilst maintaining a sense of reverence. They are invited to take part in role play and lead prayers but do not have an independent role in preparing and leading worship.

RE is clearly at the core of the curriculum and reflects and supports the inherent spirit of the Christian vision. The use of the 'Questful RE' syllabus ensures that pupils have rich learning experiences. These develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and major world faiths. Pupils experience deep and spiritually demanding discussion as they explore texts and share ideas in a respectful way. A range of activities supports pupils' spiritual development and fosters enthusiasm.

The Christian vision of this deeply compassionate and inclusive school is embedded in every aspect of daily life. Love and wisdom abound as all members of the school family grow together at the heart of God's community.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent	
	<p>Highly effective teaching challenges and supports pupils' exploration of religious belief and practice. Highly committed and knowledgeable subject leadership ensures that RE is carefully monitored and that staff have access to purposeful professional development. Pupils progress extremely well and develop the confidence to use age appropriate theological language in discussion and written activities.</p>			
Information				
School	Glazebury Church of England VA Primary School	Inspection date	9 November 2022	
URN	146417	VC/VA/ Academy	Academy	
Diocese/District	Liverpool	Pupils on roll	126	
MAT/Federation	LDST MAT			
Headteacher	Karen Mowbray			
Chair of Governors	Sara Makepeace-Taylor and Alice Richards			
Inspector	Jean Forward	No.	625	