

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>Cuckney Church of England Primary School</b>	
Address	Cuckney, Mansfield, NG20 9NB
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>Dream, Believe, Achieve</p> <p>'Nothing will be impossible with God' Luke 1:37</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Christian vision drives everything the school does. As a result, it makes a palpable difference to the lives of the whole school community.</li> <li>• An ambitious curriculum has been designed that meets the needs of all pupils, including the most vulnerable. Pupils benefit from meaningful opportunities to celebrate, respect and understand diversity but these are not fully embedded across the whole curriculum.</li> <li>• Pastoral care is exceptional, with all pupils and adults being greatly valued as unique individuals. Consequently, all members of the school community are treated with dignity and respect as part of the 'Cuckney family'.</li> <li>• Engaging collective worship inspires pupils to reflect on how they should live their lives. Pupils regularly lead worship but opportunities for them to fully evaluate it are currently limited.</li> <li>• Highly effective curriculum planning in religious education (RE) ensures all pupils have a deep understanding of Christianity and other world religions. Current systems enable teachers to know how well pupils learn but do not fully allow leaders to review this over time.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure opportunities to understand and celebrate difference are woven across the whole curriculum. This is to further enhance pupils' understanding and appreciation of diversity.</li> <li>• Provide greater opportunities for pupils to evaluate collective worship to ensure it continues to be engaging for all.</li> <li>• Develop systems that enable the school to know what and how well pupils learn in religious education (RE). This is to allow leaders to fully review pupils' knowledge and understanding over their time at the school.</li> </ul>

## Inspection findings

The Christian vision of the school is a golden thread that runs throughout and underpins everything it does. Leaders passionately explain how it is rooted in the Bible and reflective of the school's unique context. It makes a tangible difference to the whole school community and prepares them fully for the next stages of their lives. Christian values, underpinned by the vision, help the school community to 'dream, believe, achieve' daily. A rigorous self-evaluation system is in place of the school as a Church school. Consequently, a clear improvement plan supports the school's strive for excellence. Governors hold leaders to account to ensure pupils and adults continue to flourish. The professional development of staff is prioritised. Staff have recently benefited from bespoke training on equality, diversity, inclusion and belonging which is being used to further enhance the curriculum. New staff receive comprehensive training around the school vision, collective worship and religious education (RE) as part of their induction.

The school has designed an ambitious and bespoke curriculum to support the pupils it serves. This has been driven by the vision of 'believing and achieving'. The curriculum is skilfully adapted to meet individual needs and therefore enables all pupils to flourish and make progress in their learning. Pupils enjoy opportunities to understand, respect and celebrate difference and diversity, but these are not fully embedded across the whole curriculum. The learning environment promotes curiosity. Pupils therefore say they find learning engaging and fun. The curriculum promotes the exploration of broader themes. Consequently, pupils appreciate the chances they have to ask big questions. They also enjoy exploring spiritual issues through both planned for and spontaneous opportunities. The school offers a vast enrichment provision, including a recent visit to the Bodleian Library, part of Oxford University. As a result, pupils develop into well rounded individuals.

The Bible verse 'nothing will be impossible with God' promotes an ethos of aspiration for all. The school has high expectations of all pupils. Individual achievements from both within and outside of school are celebrated. This creates a culture where pupils are proud to 'dream, believe and achieve'. Adults model resilience and ensure pupils understand they can learn from their mistakes. As a result, all pupils are inspired to be the best they can be. Pupils understand disadvantage and deprivation. This has inspired them to take action to bring about change. Pupils have independently written to the local council about litter. Charitable activities are organised by the school council and reflect issues that are on the hearts of individuals.

Pastoral care for the whole school community is exceptional. It ensures 'dream, believe, achieve' is a reality for all. Everyone is a valued member of the 'Cuckney family', cared for as an individual and supported to flourish. The school's behaviour policy has forgiveness at the core and ensures, where necessary, there is a fresh start every day. As a result, behaviour is exemplary, pupils are tremendously welcoming and relationships at all levels are built on dignity and respect. Pupil and adult wellbeing are paramount. Weekly personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) sessions provide valued opportunities to explore positive mental health. Pupils also make effective use of 'worry monsters' to share any concerns they may have. In addition, a fully trained emotional literacy support assistant (ELSA) is available to work with pupils who need additional support. Consequently, all pupils spoken to report they feel safe and incredibly cared for. Staff are equally appreciative of the support they receive. Workload is regularly reviewed and has led to changes to the marking and assessment policy. This results in staff feeling both appreciated and valued, meaning staff turnover is low. They talk passionately about the open-door policy of leaders and being part of the 'Cuckney family'.

Collective worship is highly engaging, inclusive for all and underpinned by the Christian vision. It is central to the daily life of the school. Leaders ensure there are meaningful opportunities to encounter the teachings of Jesus and the Bible. A single theme runs throughout each week to give the opportunity for deep reflection in a variety of worship settings. Consequently, pupils speak enthusiastically about how it contributes to their spiritual development. Collective worship has been strategically placed at the end of the afternoon session. This is to give the whole school community time to reflect on the day. As a result, pupils talk passionately about how collective worship inspires them to reflect on the decisions they make. Opportunities for prayer and reflection are a natural part of school life. Classroom reflection areas are regularly updated and valued by pupils. The school is extremely well supported by St. Mary's Church which has enabled collective worship provision to adapt and grow over time. Monthly 'Cuckney Connect' sessions provide an opportunity for whole families to worship together in school. Special services are held for key Christian festivals. Where possible these are held in the church and are well attended by the wider school community. A faith council has been established and pupils are regularly involved in the leading and planning of aspects of collective worship. There are some opportunities for pupils to evaluate collective worship but these are currently limited.

Curriculum planning in RE is progressive and adapted to meet individual needs. Educational visits to the National Holocaust Centre and a variety of places of worship bring classroom learning to life. As a result, the curriculum is highly effective for all pupils, including those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND). This means pupils have a deep knowledge and understanding of Christianity and other major world religions. Pupils report that they enjoy RE and explain how important it is to respect and understand the beliefs of others. Pupils engage with opportunities to think critically. For example, Year 6 pupils were comparing Christian and Islamic beliefs on charity whilst the youngest pupils were creatively exploring the Christian belief in God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. RE lessons provide an incredibly safe space for all pupils to ask questions and reflect on their own beliefs. There are effective systems in place that allow current teachers to know how and what pupils are learning in RE. As a result, teachers continually adapt curriculum planning in liaison with the subject lead to meet pupil needs. The system does not yet enable leaders to monitor this across a pupil's full time at the school.

The Christian vision creates a family feel in the school and makes a palpable difference to the lives of the whole school community.

Information			
School	Cuckney Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	26 April 2023
URN	122757	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Southwell & Nottingham	Pupils on roll	136
Headteacher	Lisa Crossland		
Chair of Governors	Margaret Lovell		
Inspector	Kelly Wall	No.	951