

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

### Christ Church and St Peter's Church of England Primary School

#### Vision

'Aim high, care for everyone'

creating a school which is,

'a place to belong'.

Our vision is deeply embedded across the school, rooted in our Christian foundation and embodied in the account of The Feeding of the Five Thousand, Matthew 14:13-21.

Christ Church and St Peter's Church of England Primary 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

- The school's vision is clearly understood by pupils and adults. A rich sense of belonging enables pupils and adults to flourish within a profound sense of Christian love and care.
- Strong church links add richness to the Christian character of the school. These seamless partnerships contribute positively to the lives of many through spiritual and practical support.
- Provision for those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), or who are vulnerable, is a school priority. This clarity of focus has fostered the development of a special unit for those who find a school environment more challenging. They are thriving because their needs are addressed with clear insight and bespoke provision.
- The school has established positive relationships with families by providing much needed practical assistance. Thus, a supportive lifeline is provided for many in the community.
- Pastoral care for staff is particularly strong. Thoughtful and perceptive leaders nurture them in their roles, so that they thrive.

#### Development Points

- Ensure that leaders at all levels systematically conduct monitoring and evaluation activities against the vision of the school. This is to effectively help steer the continuing development of Christ Church and St Peter's as a Church school.
- Consolidate the shared understanding of spirituality so that spiritual language is intrinsic across all aspects of school life. This is to enrich spiritual growth in both pupils and adults.
- Develop practical opportunities within the religious education (RE) curriculum to enrich understanding of a variety of beliefs and world views. This in order to support pupils' experiences of diversity and life beyond their locality.



## Inspection Findings

Christ Church and St Peter's deeply reflects God's love, demonstrated especially through personalised, practical support. The vision, rooted in Jesus caring for five thousand people, generates an astute awareness of individual need. A gifted team of adults exemplify a unified culture of belonging, aspiration and hope. Alongside local churches, a lifeline is provided for many families, who thrive in an atmosphere of deep love and care. Parents and carers trust the staff team to know what is best for their children. This helps create a community that places pupils at the heart of decision making. Visits by trust representatives and access to diocesan support give guidance and direction with bespoke advice and training. Governors and the trust know the school well, understanding its context and vision. However, at present, their evaluation of the vision is not formalised or systematic. Consequently, development points to enrich the Christian character of the school are not as specific as they could be.

The vision is strengthened by the belief that Jesus can take something small and create something big. Pupils are encouraged to aim high and believe that they have the ability to reach their full potential. A themed curriculum has been carefully thought through to reflect the school's Christian distinctiveness. Key curriculum 'drivers' closely align with Christian values and character traits. For example, many pupils develop skills in how they think and act, preparing them well for the next stage in their lives. Provision for those with SEND or who are vulnerable is a priority. Some, who have been turned away from other settings, are warmly welcomed. Staff are well trained and attuned to meet individual needs. 'The nest' provides a safe learning environment for those who find classroom learning more challenging. It offers crucial support for pupils with emotional and behavioural needs. Leaders have focussed on the development of a shared understanding and language of spirituality. As a result, this is inspiring times of spirituality across the curriculum.

Pupils and adults' lives are touched and spiritually enriched by collective worship. It is regarded as a vital element to begin the day. Carefully considered themes closely connect the vision and values to Bible stories. This ensures there is a daily reminder about what is at the heart of this school. Shaped by Anglican tradition, responses are very natural. There is a keen awareness of biblical text. For example, words from Psalms in the Bible are explored, deepening opportunities for spiritual reflection. These 'songs from the heart' touch many lives, including adults, as they experience times of difficulty or express thankfulness. Pupils from 'the nest' are warmly supported to participate in worship, reinforcing their connection with the vision and values. A key strength in worship is the inspirational provision different churches make to enriching times of reflection. However, the absence of a fully embedded shared language of spirituality, sometimes restricts how these moments are expressed. Within the school's safe environment pupils feel free to ask and ponder questions about faith. This enhances their experience of worship. The pupil 'assembly squad' regularly lead Sunday worship at the church. This enables parents and the wider community to experience their own spiritual moments. Local Christians meet to pray weekly for the school. As a result, it is spiritually upheld by those with a real heart for Christ Church and St Peter's.

Pupils are flourishing because they are known well to insightful leaders and staff. Togetherness and belonging underpins the whole culture of the school. Caring for social, mental health and emotional needs is intrinsic to the school's activities. 'The space' is easily accessible for anyone who needs support. Here, there is a safe environment to be calm and unload worries. Pupils know that they will not be judged, but lovingly supported to address their needs, reducing anxieties and concerns. Access to a wide range of agencies ensures that provision to meet different needs is effective. Relationships with parents are deep-rooted, with a tangible sense of unwavering trust. Everyone



is welcomed without judgement, knowing that staff will go over and above to help them. Pastoral care for adults is particularly strong. Individuals, who are often isolated due to the nature of their roles, are thoughtfully supported. They genuinely appreciate the regular 'supervision' sessions, providing them with valuable opportunities to informally connect with leaders. This enables staff to feel that they are of intrinsic value to the team. As a result, they consider that the school is a safe space and a backbone to them personally.

Pupils have a mature confidence in themselves. They take their leadership roles seriously and with great responsibility. Character education and Christian values are taught explicitly at the start of each term. They are a thread woven through each curriculum theme. As a consequence, there is a clear focus on responsibility towards others and aspiration to make the world a better place. Charity involvement enables a knowledge of injustice in the wider world. Some pupils independently champion causes close to their heart through fundraising. This leads to a sense of empowerment in their ability to be agents of change. Partnerships with village food banks and hosting the community fridge contribute to a meaningful understanding of the needs of others. Forest school activities strengthen knowledge of the plight of the natural world and a focus on the impact of human activity. For example, eco warriors have tackled litter around the school. The sense of loving acceptance is deep because care and respect for everyone is instilled on a daily basis.

The subject of RE has a high priority and is well led. Leaders benefit from collaboration with subject groups within the trust, developing their own knowledge and skills. This is then cascaded to staff in order to deepen understanding of the curriculum. Thorough monitoring has identified the need for a focus on developing key vocabulary relating to different religions. This has impacted positively on the ability to use subject specific language in RE lessons. Pupils know that RE is helping them to develop respect and understanding. It is preparing them to have well informed conversations with those of different faiths and world views. However, there are limited practical visits and real-life opportunities to experience a diverse range of cultures and belief. Special adaptations are made for those in 'the nest' ensuring that they have equal access to a comprehensive RE curriculum. Pupils enjoy their lessons and notably, the liberty they are given to express their opinions and ideas. They appreciate that they can ask big questions and there are no right or wrong answers.

## Information

Address	8 Rothley Road, Mountsorrel, Loughborough, Leicestershire, LE12 7JU		
Date	23 January 2025	URN	141222
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	399
Diocese	Leicester		
MAT	RISE Multi-Academy Trust		
Co-Headteachers	Clare Clay and Sarah Evans		
Chair of Governors	Jaqui Prisk		
Chair of Trust	Stephen Adshead		
Inspector	Joy Hardy		