

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hulland Ward Church of England Primary School	
Address	Firs Avenue, Hulland Ward, DE6 3FS
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>'Preparing the way for life in all its fullness.'</p> <p>The school will prepare the way for a future in an ever-changing world, through a curriculum rich in creative learning opportunities, underpinned by Christian values. Our children will be part of an inclusive community, where everyone feels valued, safe and special; where they love to learn and learn to love.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school's vision clearly empowers decision making at all levels of leadership. It is instrumental in achieving whole school progress, recognising how the whole pupil is nurtured and encouraged to flourish. While this creates a strong sense of school identity, leaders recognise that external partnerships enhance opportunities for pupils and adults to thrive. • Each classroom has thoughtfully constructed and well used reflection areas. However, pupils regard these as their space to consider their emotions rather than to promote spiritual reflection. • The school is successful in engaging with social action. Pupils enthusiastically support charitable activities that are frequently instigated by adults within school and from the local community. • Collective worship is vibrant, invitational and enjoyed. Governors monitor and support pupil led collective worship. It is a central part of each day and valued by the whole community. • Engaging RE lessons enable pupils to ask 'big questions', to discuss ideas and develop their curiosity. Pupils enjoy their RE lessons and are eager to share their knowledge.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the impact of external partnerships to further enhance the school's Christian distinctiveness and whole school progress. • Explore a shared understanding and definition of spirituality so that pupils and adults can successfully communicate their experiences. • Deepen opportunities for pupil-initiated action to enable them to engage proactively with social challenge, leading to positive change in the lives of others.

Inspection findings

This deeply inclusive school has embedded its vision to 'Prepare the way for life in all its fullness' into its daily practice. Every opportunity is taken so that each pupil and adult feels valued, safe and special. Staff know every pupil well and are quick to celebrate success and to support emerging challenges. The school monitors the wellbeing of every pupil, meeting challenge as it arises. Pupils are encouraged to communicate their feelings which enables bespoke encouragement and wellbeing support. Pupils and adults work together as partners for the common good.

The leadership of the headteacher is encouraged and supported by a well informed and able governing body. Governors are proactive and, together with the headteacher, ensure that the school Christian vision directs their decision making. They are regular visitors to school. Governors monitor developments and report back to the whole governing body. This oversight ensures that they are well informed and able to accurately hold the school to account. Governors care deeply about staff wellbeing. This has helped to sustain a strong and professional team. While leaders recognise the opportunity to embrace external expertise, through carefully chosen partnerships, this is yet to be established. Staff are ambitious for the pupils, ensuring appropriate challenge in their learning. The school's Christian vision is consistently central to all professional interactions. Staff appreciate that leadership seeks out their thoughts and insights in determining the school's direction.

The pupils are thoughtful, kind and reflective. They are proud of their school and behave well, demonstrating positive learning behaviours. They are enthusiastic about their learning. Pupils have pride in the school, recognising it as a mutually supportive community. It is common for older pupils to be mindful of the needs of those who are younger.

Staff and governors believe deeply that every pupil is precious. Consequently, they work diligently to ensure that pupils receive opportunities to thrive and 'enjoy life in all its fullness'. The school introduces pupils to local traditional events. Pupils, therefore, have first-hand experience of supporting their community while being introduced to their heritage. The school ensures that the pupils have a broad learning experience which reflects the vision of living life to the full.

The delightful outdoor space is widely appreciated and used well to support pupils' learning. The extensive grounds support forest school and other outdoor pursuits. The very active parent-teacher association has significantly engaged with developing projects that enhance the school environment. Parents have offered their time and skill to develop the school grounds.

There is a deep sense of everyone being loved in this school. Staff ensure that every pupil, including the most vulnerable, is respected and supported as an individual. Staff recognise that each pupil is made in God's image. Pupils appreciate how the adults care for them and that each of them is important and valued.

The school has responded compassionately to need. This has included organising events with the local community to support the people of Ukraine. Pupils articulate their deep concern for others who are in distinct need. However, pupils are yet to become agents of change, to challenge injustice and inequality.

Pupils eagerly engage in the act of daily collective worship. The school's vision, 'where they love to learn and learn to love', is a significant catalyst for enriched worship. The pupils are active in organising and implementing worship and ensure that it is both invitational and inclusive. Worship entwines the pupils' collective experiences by celebrating achievement

while reflecting upon their relationship with God. Pupils review the impact of collective worship. They independently assess how the school's values are celebrated. Governors take an active interest in supporting pupils in developing pupil led collective worship. Furthermore, there is a strong link with the church community. The school benefits from the proactive participation of clergy. This makes a significant contribution to worship and is appreciated by the school. The school's leadership has identified areas for spiritual reflection. However, a shared understanding of spirituality, to enable opportunities for reflection to be meaningfully and deeply discussed, is yet to develop.

RE makes an impressive contribution to how pupils and adults flourish. Pupils are enthusiastic about their memorable RE lessons. They are eager to discuss their learning and confidently explore ideas, referring to key messages from biblical texts. The pupils are respectfully curious to learn about faith traditions and demonstrate critical reflection in their class discussions. The subject leader is highly knowledgeable and hardworking in their role. Skilled questioning enables pupils to engage with scripture and to think deeply about how that relates to their own lives. Staff expertise means RE lessons are well-taught and learning is secure. Teaching and learning is enhanced through robust resources such as 'Understanding Christianity', developing pupils' religious literacy. The quality of RE is a particular strength of the school.

In this distinctively Christian school, every pupil and adult is celebrated and their contributions valued. Staff deeply care about developing each pupil and being part of a mutually supportive community. They are focused upon creating and maintaining a learning environment which has high aspirations. Staff are diligent about providing opportunities that enable everyone to flourish. Pupils are happy, caring and love their school. All staff are part of a highly driven and mutually supportive team. Governors have good oversight and offer challenge and support to maintain high expectations. The community works together and enables the school to live its vision and, 'Prepare the way for life in all its fullness'.

Information			
School	Hulland Ward Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	21 October 2022
URN	112831	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Derby	Pupils on roll	55
Headteacher	Wendy Underwood		
Chair of Governors	Shobha Tynan		
Inspector	Mark Millinson	No.	2121