

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Saviour's Church of England Primary Academy

Vision

With our faith and love, we believe and grow and achieve in ourselves, each other and our community. 'So we must love one another. As I have loved you. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples.' John 13:34-35

We live out our vision through our school values of *honesty, perseverance, respect, aspiration, friendship and forgiveness*.

Believe, Grow, Achieve with Christ

St Saviour's Church of England Academy 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

- St Saviour's is a school where love is central to the Christian ethos and inspires the vision. Consequently, it is expressed, nurtured and lived out by the whole community, enabling pupils and adults to flourish.
- Leaders and governors are highly aspirational for pupils. The vision underpins the curriculum. This ensures that pupils, including those who are vulnerable or with special educational needs, enjoy rich and immersive learning experiences. This enables pupils to develop holistically.
- The exceptionally strong Christian culture of love and care fosters an environment where people feel valued and supported. This impacts significantly on the good mental health and wellbeing of the whole community. Relationships within school and with the Trust are a significant strength.
- Relevant and engaging collective worship is an expression of the Christian vision and values. Meaningful lessons from collective worship challenge thinking and inspire character development.
- Religious education (RE) is regarded as an important subject. It deepens understanding of a range of world religions and worldviews, including Christianity. Pupils speak about their learning with enthusiasm.

Development Points

- Embed pupils' understanding of spirituality and the language needed to discuss it. This is so that it can become an intrinsic and planned part of the curriculum, enhancing spiritual flourishing.
- Extend opportunities for pupils to identify and explore issues of justice and fairness. This is so they may confidently and independently further their personal influence to become agents of change.



Inspection Findings

St Saviour's Church of England Academy serves its community with love, a clarity of vision and unconditional Christian care. The warmest of welcomes and a smile extends to those who visit. Leaders ensure that the Christian vision fully represents the current school community. This enables them to meet the needs of their pupils and families. The vision is expressed through deeply embedded Christian values. Pupils understand that these values are explicitly linked to Bible stories and are able to apply them to their own lives. Parents, carers and other visitors to the school recognise these values and extol the loving culture within the school community. Strong partnerships are central to the school's continuing growth. Being part of St Bart's Multi Academy Trust provides leaders, staff and pupils with a wealth of opportunities and exceptional support. Adults thrive as a result of the care and nurture from leaders and governors. Time is taken to make sure staff feel loved and valued. They are therefore able to grow in spirit and professionally. Furthermore, the strong partnerships with the local church and Lichfield Diocese effectively strengthen the work of this Church school. Governors and leaders effectively evaluate the impact of the school's vision. They talk to pupils about their learning, conduct lesson visits and meet with subject leaders. Consequently, they make effective strategic decisions to ensure that pupils and adults thrive.

The curriculum is shaped and guided by the vision. The school's values of honesty, perseverance, respect, aspiration, friendship and forgiveness weave naturally into the curriculum. It is designed to reveal the best in each pupil. There is an embedded drive to ensure that all pupils are able to approach the curriculum effectively. This includes pupils who are vulnerable and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Care is taken to support and nurture every individual. This ensures that they access their learning and can thrive. Thus, pupils enjoy lessons, are motivated in their work and behave well. Leaders are passionate about developing the whole child. An emphasis on personal development alongside academic achievement is supported by a wide range of exciting and extra-curricular opportunities. These currently include sewing, dance, film club and 'Young Voices', a national children's choir. They enrich pupils' lives and experiences whilst also developing life skills. The school community's journey, to develop spirituality across the curriculum, is making progress. Some subjects provide opportunities for pupils to express their spiritual awareness. This includes the school's current work on sustainability and protecting God's world. However, pupils' use of a common language to express spirituality is at its early stages. Thus, their understanding is underdeveloped.

Collective worship impacts positively upon the spiritual lives of both pupils and adults. It provides opportunities to explore the vision and values in a variety of ways. This helps to underpin the clear sense of love that permeates the school. Opportunities for discussion and reflection promote spiritual flourishing and ensure that these gathered times are meaningful. Collective worship is enhanced through church partnerships, which enrich planning and delivery. Pupils appreciate visiting clergy leading worship. Responsibility is given to Year 6 pupils, who lead celebration worship on a Friday. This responsibility



enhances their confidence and spiritual growth. It is a time of joy, where the whole school gathers to celebrate each other's achievements. Pupils and adults speak with incredible enthusiasm about this worship, which they all look forward to and truly value. Digital worship is also a feature for schools within St Bart's multi academy trust (MAT). Recorded worships, led by schools, are shared. They unite the trust community in scripture, song and prayer, enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritually.

Every person is championed, loved and cherished within St Saviour's. This is achieved through a focus on appreciating the uniqueness of each individual and their talents. These talents are regularly celebrated. The vision is deeply expressed through the shared Christian love that the team at St Saviour's is built upon. Serving the community with humility and kindness is natural for leaders at this school. Therefore, relationships are excellent, which creates an environment where people are nurtured and listened to. In challenging times, leaders reach to the vision. This ensures the school community 'love one another' and flourish together with God's love and guidance. Adults in school say, 'we genuinely love each other'. This is embedded in the school's caring culture. The trust provides quality professional development and expertise which enables staff to grow and flourish, enhancing their wellbeing. Pupils are deeply respectful of one another. They say that adults 'teach us about respect and comfort us when things are tricky'. Consequently, pupils feel nurtured here. Pupils speak with passion about everyone being welcome, loved and supported at their school. Parents and carers value the love and support they receive, demonstrating close school and family bonds.

The vision encourages the pupils to take on responsibilities for the benefit of others within the school community. They enthusiastically take a lead in shared school life through groups such as school council, children's parliament and peer chaplains. Through these opportunities, they develop life skills and grow in confidence. Pupils consider the needs of others and have recently formed a strong partnership with the local foodbank. They care about their environment and are developing their work on sustainability, supported by the trust. Pupils talk about individual responsibility to make considerate choices in their lives. However, they are not always clear as to how they can promote justice and responsibility beyond themselves. Therefore, pupils' understanding of what they can do to make positive changes locally and further afield is not established.

RE has a high profile and status in the school and is underpinned by the school vision. The curriculum design is relevant and diverse, with a range of religions and worldviews being taught. Effective engagement with the diocese and network meetings with the trust ensure teachers are well-resourced and supported with their training. Consequently, staff confidence in teaching RE is apparent. Pupils enjoy lessons and their knowledge of Bible stories is a strength. Virtual visits to different places of worship are used in lessons. These opportunities allow pupils to gain a deeper understanding of how and where other religions worship. Pupils readily articulate their understanding of major religions and worldviews. This gives them having the religious language they need to share their ideas about a range of cultures and beliefs.

Information

Address	Congleton Road, Talke, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, ST7 1LW		
Date	14 November 2024	URN	144591
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	173
Diocese/District	Lichfield		
MAT/Federation	St Bart's Academy Trust		
Headteacher	Lynn Davis		
Chair of Governors	Marina Weller		
Inspector	Rebecca Walker		