



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Sutton in Craven Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Main Street, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, BD20 7JS

School vision
<p>Flourishing together, in the love of God, to live life in all its fullness. John 10:10 Our vision is to support every child to flourish into compassionate, confident and resilient young people who have a delight in learning and do so in the love of God. We focus on three core Christian values, love, courage and peace which underpin all we do in school.</p>

School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders are passionate and determined, establishing a Christian vision which gives clear direction to support improvements. A highly valued staff team live out the vision in all that they do. Therefore, they see on a daily basis the difference that it makes. • There is a culture of care and love in the school. Positive mental health and wellbeing are prioritised in this inclusive community. As a result, all, including the most vulnerable, flourish. • Collective worship is an inclusive, uplifting reflection of what drives the school family. It inspires all to live out the vision and Christian values of love, courage and peace in school life. • Through the development of a curriculum tailored to the needs of its community, the school develops the whole child. Pupils have opportunities to experience life in all its fullness, developing emotionally and academically. • The profile and impact of religious education (RE) has been raised with new approaches engaging and deepening understanding. Effective leadership ensures that the curriculum meets the needs of all pupils, developing appropriate religious literacy.

Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deepen pupils' understanding of injustice within the world and how they can bring about positive change. This is to build opportunities for pupil-led social action. • Ensure that opportunities to flourish spiritually are identified within planning to progressively deepen pupils' thinking. Support pupils and adults to develop a language which will help them to express their understanding of spirituality. • Extend opportunities in RE, so that pupils develop a broader understanding of world religions and non-religious worldviews.

Inspection findings
<p>Through the deeply considered and embedded Christian vision, a sense of welcome and nurture permeates through Sutton C of E School. The vision is central to leaders' aspiration that pupils and adults encounter 'life in all its fullness.' It is at the heart of all decisions made at school. These include expanding the leadership team so that the needs of pupils and families are effectively</p>

addressed. Vision-driven investment in staffing, has equipped adults with expertise aligned to the needs of the school. Governors know the school well and are committed to its success. Self-evaluation as a distinctive Church school is rigorous and used to actively serve and support its community. Parents recognise how the vision and associated Christian values enable all individuals to flourish holistically.

The commitment to life in all its fullness is evident in the school's approach to the curriculum. The determination to provide a broad range of inspiring, inclusive learning experiences is central to curriculum planning. Provision is enhanced by a tapestry of enrichment opportunities, helping pupils to develop their delight in learning. These include participating in concerts, performances, regular sporting events and extra-curricular clubs. Aspects of spirituality are recognised within learning, strengthening pupils understanding of their place in the world. However, a whole school approach to describe and explore spirituality is at an early stage of development. This means that spiritual experiences are not explicitly planned across all curriculum areas.

Spurred by the desire to ensure that all pupils thrive, leaders are proactive in meeting the diverse needs of all. Close relationships with external agencies ensure that individuals with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are effectively supported. Focused provision has also been created. This includes the conversion of the headteacher's office into a much-needed sensory room. A culture of acceptance is cultivated within relationships and through the curriculum, so that all pupils feel that they belong. Opportunities to consider the needs of the local community are promoted through fundraising activities. This has included supporting charities such as the food and baby clothing banks. Pupils develop their knowledge of world issues within weekly 'Picture News' worship sessions. They also consider diversity and aspects of injustice through topics within the school's personal and social health education programme (PSHE). However, discussions about the ways in which pupils at Sutton C of E School can potentially help are not translated into practical responses. This means that chances to become advocates and lead social action are not fully realised.

The school has major strengths in how it addresses mental health and wellbeing. Emotion coaching, along with zoned classroom areas that pupils can access, help individuals to understand and control their behaviour. Regular 'My Happy Mind' lessons develop a growth mindset and the vocabulary needed to help individuals express themselves. Through effective collaboration with the Bradford Mental Health Team, adults and pupils access a range of provision. This is enabling all pupils to participate fully in school life and to flourish. Within the school community, there is a strong emphasis on teamwork, reflection and resilience. As a result, teaching and support staff are motivated to live out the vision within their daily interactions. They are appreciative of the servant leadership evident within the school. This positive culture, underpinned by the Christian vision, ensures that all pupils and adults are treated well.

Invitational, inclusive worship is a focal point of the school day. It strongly expresses the vision of a flourishing community, centred around the Christian values of love, courage and peace. Leaders have created a varied programme that provides opportunities to reflect on scripture, world events and spirituality. Pupils value how teaching within worship helps them to flourish in their attitudes and relationships. Individuals explained that the parable of 'The Lost Sheep' helped them to understand that everyone is special and loved. All worship is highly inclusive. The school is proactive in supporting the needs of vulnerable pupils so they can fully engage and reflect. Adults and pupils actively explore big life questions. These moments foster respect and deepen spiritual awareness. The recently created 'Faith Squad', together with leadership, evaluates worship. Feedback prompts improvements. Enrichments include increased pupil involvement along with more opportunities for drama and role play. Within worship, pupils are encouraged to respond through spontaneous prayer. Individuals confidently share their thoughts and feelings with the rest of the school.

However, planned times for personal reflection and prayer outside of worship, to support spiritual growth, are less developed. Despite not having a vicar in post, the school has ensured that the link with St Thomas Church remains strong. Services for key festivals contribute to the whole school community flourishing together.

RE has a high status across all year groups. The RE curriculum is regularly adapted to support the changing needs of pupils in mixed age classes. However, care is taken to ensure that content is sequenced in a logical way. There is a balance of teaching of Christianity with world faiths and world views. Each unit of learning starts with a hook to engage pupils, helping them to consider the relevance of learning. Pupils develop a secure knowledge base through weekly recaps that revisit content and themes. Questions posed within feedback draw out explanations and support pupils to deepen their understanding of core concepts. Leaders benefit from the support of the diocese, who provide guidance on improvements to the quality of RE. The RE leader facilitates staff development ensuring effective practice is regularly shared. Pupils are proud of their work and readily share their thoughts and views. They see RE as an important part of the curriculum and can discuss differences between religions with respect and care. Pupils' understanding of how religious and non-religious worldviews, including Christianity, can impact on life choices and experiences is more limited.

Sutton C of E is a small school with a big heart. A sense of compassion and commitment from all enables pupils and adults to flourish together and know God's love.

The inspection findings indicate that Sutton in Craven Church of England VC Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	1 February 2024	URN	121593
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	96
Diocese	Leeds		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Orla Gibbons		
Chair	Lynette Brammah		
Inspector	Steven Holmes	No.	2233