

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Himbleton Church of England VC Primary School				
Address	Neight Hill, Himbleton, Droitwich, WR9 7LE			

School vision

Nurture, Nature, Knowledge:

Enabling inquisitive thinkers and inspired learners with kind hearts.

'Faith, Hope, Love...the greatest of these is Love.' (Corinthians 13:13)

'So in everything, do unto others what you would have them do to you.' (Matthew 7:12)

'Wise men and women are always learning, always listening for fresh insights.' (Proverbs 18:15)

School strengths

- The Christian vision forms the foundation of the entire school. The commitment to 'Nurture, Nature, Knowledge' is evident throughout the school and is practised daily.
- Collective worship is extremely well-planned and evaluated. Consequently, pupils and adults experience prayer and moments of reflection.
- The curriculum has been designed with the school's Christian vision at its heart. As a result, all pupils have opportunities to flourish academically.
- There is a relentless commitment to nurture everyone. As a result, the environment provides support and care for all.
- The school's approach to religious education (RE) provides valuable opportunities to explore questions about the world around them. Consequently, pupils experience thought-provoking, interesting and challenging learning experiences.

Areas for development

- Extend opportunities to embed pupils' understanding of injustice in the world. This is so they can appreciate how they might take action to make a difference.
- Develop pupils' ability to articulate their own understanding of spirituality and how that can be enhanced through worship.

Inspection findings

Himbleton Primary radiates a sense of warmth that envelops all who step through its doors. The school's Christian ethos, encapsulated in the vision 'Nurture, Nature, Knowledge', is enthusiastically embraced and celebrated by every member of the school community. This carefully crafted vision is seamlessly woven into the very fabric of daily school life. Underpinning this vision is a commitment to fostering relationships built upon their values of respect, friendship, perseverance, truthfulness, forgiveness and courage. The vision serves as a guiding light for every decision made and action



taken within the school. As one child said, 'Our Christian values show us the right path.' Among staff and families alike, there exists a deep affection for Himbleton. They talk about their sense of belonging and how it impacts their lives. For the pupils, the vision is a lived reality through daily experiences and interactions. This embracing of the vision cultivates an unmistakable atmosphere of inclusivity and compassion. It permeates every corner of the school. It is an environment in which both pupils and adults are empowered to flourish and reach their full potential. Himbleton's Christian vision has created a warm, inclusive environment where relationships thrive.

The school's vision serves as a foundation for the entire curriculum. Comprehensive support structures are firmly in place, carefully designed to ensure pupils can actively engage in their learning. Shaped by the vision, the curriculum allows for tailored and appropriate support for those with additional needs. This ensures they access the education they deserve. Staff understand spirituality's place in the curriculum and have plans which enable this. The school has a spirituality policy that guides how to nurture spiritual growth. Teachers look for meaningful ways to incorporate spiritual reflection when possible. This could happen during science lessons or in personal, social and health education (PSHE) lessons. The school also takes advantage of its unique outdoor spaces and natural setting to provide opportunities for quiet reflection and connecting with nature. However, opportunities to nurture pupils' spiritual development are not consistently woven throughout the curriculum, representing an area for further growth and refinement. Pupils take immense joy in celebrating each other's successes, embodying the Christian vision. As one child eloquently expressed, 'Everyone is special in their own way.'

Inspired by their vision, collective worship is a key moment in the school day, bringing staff and pupils together. It is a time for the community to gather together in an atmosphere that is welcoming, joyous, reflective and inclusive. As one member of staff put it, 'I love worship – it's a calm time for me.' Reflection areas around school, both inside and outside, enable pupils to share thoughts and prayers. Children confidently write their own prayers to share with others in whole school collective worship. They talk about what prayer means to them, 'I pray for my mum everyday – she's my best friend.' The well-planned worship programme draws its inspiration from the school's six core values and a rich tapestry of Church traditions. It serves to deepen pupils' understanding of the vision through the exploration of Christian values. A strong relationship between the school and church community exists. This relationship has continued through recent changes in leadership at church. This partnership enriches the collective worship experience. Pupils demonstrate a keen understanding of how collective worship helps them understand the enduring relevance of Jesus' teachings in modern day life. They understand what these stories and lessons mean for their own lives. Pupils have the chance to evaluate worship and their feedback contributes to its development.

There is a strong commitment to wellbeing. Staff talk of being 'One big family and anyone will help anyone.' Staff work in a culture of being valued and surrounded by caring colleagues. Pupils are able to receive nurture and support. They are polite and behave well. This is because they are given guidance on how to deal with difficulties and conflict and are given the time and space needed to build relationships. They understand how they need to be respectful of everyone. Governors acknowledge the significance of wellbeing for both staff and pupils and take active measures to ensure it.

Pupils are provided with platforms to express themselves. They have the chance to step into leadership roles and make meaningful contributions to the school life. They represent their peers, help to develop their school and support charitable causes. This helps develop their confidence to be agents for change. Supporting charities is part of school life. Pupils are less aware, however, of injustice in the wider world and how they can be part of challenge for change.

Leaders regard religious education (RE) as an important subject and actively ensure it is well-



resourced. The experienced RE lead ensures that the subject is very well planned, on a two-year cycle, closely reflecting the school's vision. Staff and children explore what RE is for and continue to develop the subject. Staff receive effective training so they feel confident when delivering the subject. Teachers use school assessment frameworks to accurately capture pupils' progress. Pupils talk about the 'big questions' in RE and how it is for everyone, 'I like that we do RE although we're not all religious.' Pupils are proud of the work they do in RE and skilfully share their ideas and discussions. As a result, pupils understand and articulate the importance of RE in the modern world.

These inspection findings indicate that Himbleton Church of England VC Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information						
Inspection date	22 May 2024	URN		116821		
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils	on roll	103		
Diocese	Worcester					
MAT/Federation						
Interim	Nicholas Cale					
Headteacher	eadteacher					
Chair	Claire Johnston					
Inspector	David Dunn		No.	2105		