

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hawkesley Church Primary Academy (CofE/Methodist)	
Address	376 Shannon Road, Hawkesley, Birmingham, B38 9TR

School vision

We are driven by our vision of 'let your light shine' (Matthew 5:16). We draw strength and example from God to help us provide an education and quality of care that enables all stakeholders to realise and share our God-given talents and skills, experiencing life in all its fullness (John 10:10).

We believe that we are people called to be light; illuminating our community through selfless service and demonstrating our shared greatness, through our Christian ethos. We develop our pupils to shine as light in the community, through giving of their time, talent and skills, for the good of all.

School strengths

- School leaders and staff are deeply committed to serving this community and meeting the needs of its pupils. Consequently, the Christian vision is realised, as lights of goodness and aspiration are ignited and people flourish.
- The school is resolved to build on its Church of England and Methodist foundations. This is significantly strengthened through partnerships with the Birmingham Diocesan Multi Academy Trust (BDMAT) and the local Anglican church. As a result, the school is recognised as a beacon of light and hope in the community.
- Collective worship times are wonderful expressions of shared love and joy, contributing to the spiritual growth of pupils and adults.
- The school offers a curriculum which enables every pupil to develop holistically. Pupils gain a sense of achievement and greatness as their unique talents are nurtured and celebrated.
- Inspirational staff ensure that religious education (RE) equips pupils with a high level of knowledge and understanding about religions and world views.

Areas for development

- Empower pupils by giving them more opportunities to take action on the ethical and social issues that they care about .

Inspection findings

The school's Christian vision drives leaders and staff to be a lighthouse of aspiration and excellence within this community. They prioritise the vision by investing time to welcome, understand and care for every pupil. School leaders ensure that the vision is deeply rooted in an understanding of the Christian faith. It infuses all that is done so that everyone can shine. Values, grouped under the categories of Love, Integrity, Greatness, Honesty and Trust (LIGHT), enable the vision to be a lived reality. For example, pupils know the 'Golden Rule', to treat others as you wish to be treated based on Bible teaching. Consequently, the school's atmosphere is one of compassion, forgiveness and mutual respect. Four biblical role models help pupils to understand aspects of the school's vision,

such as greatness. It is profoundly life-changing how pupils identify with a character such as David. They are motivated to overcome fears and try their best. With relentless school support and encouragement, pupils realise that they can be great too. There is a shared passion between the school and the BDMAT for pupils to experience 'life in all its fullness'. The school is wrapped around with the whole-hearted support of the BDMAT and governing body. The latter includes inspirational leaders from the local parish church and the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust (MAST). The Christian vision is developed because school leaders have rigorous processes for understanding its effectiveness. They seek the views of pupils, parents and staff. Leaders make wise and creative decisions to extend the school's influence as an inspirational church academy. Following a time of change in terms of leadership and staffing, a strong team has been forged. They are whole-hearted about their service to the school and community. Inspired by John Wesley, the founder of Methodism, everyone 'watches over the other in love'. Staff and school leaders are motivated to give of their best within an environment of trust and professional growth. They flourish as they develop their own God-given talents and gifts. The school's vision is well supported with training and encouragement from the Diocese of Birmingham and the Methodist Academies and Schools Trust.

A carefully considered and rich curriculum ignites a love of teaching and learning for staff and pupils. The Christian vision is fulfilled as pupils and staff aspire to grow spiritually, emotionally, socially and academically. A great sense of trust and fulfilment, engendered by school leaders, enables staff to flourish. In turn, staff actively promote the wellbeing and self-esteem of each pupil. They provide support, challenge and encouragement so that every pupil can experience success and respect the greatness of others. Leaders committedly aspire to meet the needs of vulnerable pupils. Special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) provision is exceptionally well resourced. Consequently, pupils with a range of needs flourish. Pupils feel safe to learn and grow holistically within a wonderfully calm, predictable and loving environment. They trust staff and engage with programmes which help them to understand, express and manage their feelings. The practices of forgiveness and reconciliation have a significant impact as they result in peace of mind. Leaders invest in providing a wide range of opportunities to extend the positive life experiences of its pupils. There is an abundance of extra-curricular provision which extends to clubs during the school holidays. In such ways, the school enables families to flourish.

As the school comes together, daily collective worship provides spiritual fuel to keep lights shining brightly. There is a familiar and comforting pattern for daily worship. Everyone is welcomed and invited into a space where they can share, learn, reflect and celebrate. A shared set of symbols, signs, words, actions and traditions gives a spiritual language which individuals draw on in times of joy and grief. Spiritual lights are ignited within staff and pupils during collective worship. They are carried throughout the school day and journey home. For example, songs are sung, Bible stories recounted and Christian values are lived out. Pupils and staff find great joy and freedom in being together. Faithful to the Methodist tradition of being 'born in song', the school 'sings the faith' with infectious enthusiasm and verve. Pupils and staff revel in lively rhythms and reflect on meaningful words. Through songs and prayers, pupils become aware that life is sometimes far from easy. However, they are reassured that they can reach out to others and God. Collective worship is recognised as a powerhouse for spiritual growth. School leaders support other schools in developing collective worship, so radiating its light more widely.

Motivated by its vision, the school extends its heart of service and kindness to the wider community. The school's vision for every pupil to shine is strengthened by working in close partnerships with families. It offers practical, educational and emotional support which is greatly appreciated, especially in times of challenge. The parish church and school work closely together to forge relationships of mutual benefit within the local community. Pupils share their God-given talents. For example, singing in church to bring joy to various community groups of all ages. In turn, pupils grow in confidence and feel the satisfaction of letting their lights shine. The school continues to pursue

opportunities to connect with people of the Methodist tradition to enhance pupils' understanding of the Methodist church today. The school's deep culture of compassion and care is evident as pupils learn how to work and play fairly with others. Staff enable pupils to consider injustices in relation to issues such as homelessness and climate change. They debate together as a whole school and are driven by the words of John Wesley to do all the good that they can. However, the opportunities for pupils to translate their feelings into action and sense that they are making a difference are limited.

There is a high regard for the importance of RE and its significant contribution to the school's Christian vision. The subject is lead with infectious enthusiasm . Teachers display high levels of subject expertise that is enhanced by high quality professional training. Teachers deliver creative and inspirational lessons which are progressively more challenging. Therefore, as they travel through the school, pupils acquire a deepening knowledge and understanding of religions and world views. The curriculum is carefully crafted to make learning relevant and memorable. Carefully devised systems for review and assessment ensure that pupils are supported and challenged so that they make progress. Pupils learn about the Methodist church and its beliefs which permeates and reinforces the school's Christian vision. A teaching and learning pattern enables pupils to develop impressive skills as they study religions and world views. They learn how to debate, interpret religious stories and express their learning in creative ways. Every lesson provides the opportunity for pupils to reflect on the 'sparks of wisdom' that have resonated with them. Consequently, this contributes to their spiritual growth. RE prepares pupils for life, as they grow in an understanding of themselves and others.

This is a place where flames of aspiration, hope and possibility are ignited for every pupil. The school is a beacon of God's love and joy for the community that it serves.

The inspection findings indicate that Hawkesley Church Academy is living up to its foundation as a Church School.

Information			
Inspection date	18 January 2024	URN	139269
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	219
Diocese	Birmingham		
MAT/Federation	Birmingham Diocesan MAT		
Headteacher	Petrina Poleon		
Chair	Sarah Smith		
Inspector	Angela Daniel	No.	757