

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Andrew's Church of England School, Crawley	
Address	Weald Drive, Crawley, RH10 6NU
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	Excellent
The impact of collective worship	Excellent
The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Excellent

School's vision
<p>Mission Statement - Growing Learners to Live in God's World (Matthew 13:31-32)</p> <p>Vision - Our deeply Christian ethos inspires service to God and our community. Our ambitious curriculum empowers children preparing them for future success. Young minds deepen their understanding through fun, purposeful and memorable learning. Children feel happy, safe and valued. Wider partnerships enhance children's experiences.</p>



Key findings

- The school's deeply embedded mission of 'growing learners to live in God's world' profoundly underpins, and flows consistently through, all aspects of school life. It informs innovative and imaginative practices that make a transformational impact on the lives, learning and wellbeing of staff, pupils and their families.
- Collective worship is the 'heartbeat' of school life. It strongly reflects and promotes the school's mission and vision. There is a rich balance of adult and pupil involvement in the planning, leadership and evaluation of worship. This is supported by the strong partnership with the church adjacent to the school. Worship consistently impacts powerfully across the daily life of the school and its community enabling all members of the school community to flourish.
- Quality opportunities for active engagement with prayer, reflection, and spiritual development are embedded into the life of the school. A shared understanding of spiritual development enables effective planned and spontaneous opportunities for spiritual development.
- Pupils flourish in religious education (RE) through excellent provision that consistently expresses the mission and vision, securely meets Church of England requirements, and enables pupils to develop a strong understanding of Christianity and a range of faiths and worldviews.
- The school has strong, mutually beneficial partnerships with the church, schools locally and in Uganda. They are a practical expression of the mission. A special relationship with a school in Uganda supports pupils' engagement in social action and their understanding of the impact of Christianity on that school community. Pupils' knowledge and understanding of the impact of Christianity on the lives of people in the wider world are not fully developed.

Areas for development

- Further develop the school's partnerships with local and global communities to enable pupils to grow in their knowledge and understanding of the impact of Christianity today as a global multicultural faith on the lives of people worldwide.



Inspection findings

St Andrew's mission of growing learners to live in God's world is firmly embedded in this culturally diverse and transformational school. Supported by the three Christian principles of wisdom, grace and hope, the mission holistically shapes the strategic and operational direction of the school. Innovative and imaginative practices, such as sharing worship, dance, and learning with a school in Uganda via video conferencing, promote the school's high ambitions for the school community to grow spiritually, in knowledge and skills, and as a team reaching out to the wider community. These practices have a tangible transformational impact on the lives, learning and wellbeing of staff, pupils and their families. The school community fully support the mission, principles and ambitions and talk enthusiastically about 'Team St Andrew's'. Strong Christian leadership and well-informed governors ensure monitoring and evaluation is rigorous and effective. These inform school developments and spending decisions that fully align with the mission and ambitions. For example, the school has allocated increased expert support and resources to meet the diverse needs of the community.

Collective worship is a special time at the start of the day supporting the community's spiritual growth. Supported by the school's close relationship with the adjacent church, it is the 'heartbeat' of the school. Weekly exploration of the mission through the three principles underpins the life of the school during the week. Pupils strongly demonstrating the principles in action are warmly celebrated in Friday worship. Worship planning, delivery, and evaluation is strong with a rich balance of adult and pupil involvement. All pupils, especially class worship ambassadors, grow as leaders in planning and delivering imaginative worship in school and church. Monitoring and evaluation are rigorous involving the whole school community. Pupil feedback via worship ambassadors helps shape its development. Worship is very inclusive, invitational and inspiring, and a strength of the school. Staff and pupils keenly attend and participate as appropriate for their personal faith. Parents relish attending Friday's celebration worship and worship in church. Worship impacts deeply on the lives of the school community. This is seen in pupils' high quality follow up in their personal reflections, prayers and songs. Parents and staff report how worship positively transforms pupils' attitudes to learning and relationships in school and at home.

The school has a rich culture of reflection and prayer, and promoting spiritual development. These are embedded, meaningfully in worship, RE and school life. Stimulating reflection areas display the worship alongside focused prayer and reflection activities that develop the theme. Pupils purposefully engage with and enjoy these activities. A stimulating multisensory prayer and reflection garden plus regular prayer spaces and walks enhance prayer and reflection opportunities. Pupils confidently speak of the importance of prayer and reflection to them. Key stage 2 pupils record their spiritual thoughts and feelings meaningfully in reflection journals. Effective spiritual development opportunities are built into the curriculum. The school's shared understanding of spiritual development enables staff to confidently move beyond planned opportunities and respond to spontaneous opportunities that occur.

Inspirational RE leadership ensures excellent provision that securely reflects the Church of England's RE Statement of Entitlement and expresses the mission. Effective and imaginative use of a creative curriculum, the local church and religious backgrounds of the school consistently delivers excellent teaching and learning across the school. Pupils have a high understanding of different world faiths including Christianity and the Trinity. Robust recording, monitoring and evaluation using innovative digital portfolios accurately identify the effectiveness of teaching and learning and areas for development. The excellence of RE is recognised by the diocese and the RE leader is actively involved in leading innovation within




the local authority.

Through living the principles promoted in worship pupils flourish and grow in their social development. Strong, caring relationships across the school community are reflected in pupils' positive and genuine attitudes to adults and each other. Parents speak highly of the school's caring ethos. Highly effective procedures and imaginative initiatives promote good mental health, welfare, safety, and behaviour for both pupils and staff. Stimulating sensory trails, a much-loved resident therapy dog, and an interactive sensory room contribute significantly in transforming pupils' readiness for learning. An innovative approach to behaviour management teaches pupils to recognise and manage their emotions, feelings and behaviour. Consequently, pupils' attendance is increasingly high, they enjoy school and behave well. Pupils understand and articulate effectively the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation and their biblical roots. Staff relationships are strong, caring, and supportive. They speak highly of tangible ways they have been supported by practical and compassionate care. Staff feedback is regularly sought and informs developments. Staff feel valued and respected. The school's excellent provision and achievements are recognised by the Wellbeing Award for Schools.

A range of imaginative and inspirational provision puts pupils at the centre of growing their learning and character development. Innovative curriculum strategies such as digital literacy and conceptual vocabulary topics promote high levels of pupil engagement in their learning. Pupils are empowered to drive their own learning, regularly reflect on it, and achieve high levels of personal success. High quality, carefully targeted and focused interventions support pupils with special educational needs or disabilities (SEND). The impact is high levels of individual progress relative to their needs. The school's SEND and Inclusion award reflects the excellent SEND provision. Dignity and respect are embedded. The school community respect and learn from their diverse backgrounds. Pupils confidently discuss big and little questions with dignity and respect for each other's opinions. The school is a recognised Rights Respecting School. The school strongly encourages and values pupils' opinions. Numerous responsibility groups such as the School and Eco Councils give pupils significant opportunity to participate in school decisions. Pupils initiate and lead on social action projects such as protecting the environment, as well as numerous charitable fundraising activities.

Strong local and global partnerships significantly enhance opportunities for the school to grow as a team reaching out to the wider community. The church supports worship, RE and runs a Christian activity club; and some pupils willingly participate in church Sunday worship. Interschool partnerships promote opportunities for non-Christian pupils to share their faith and staff to share good practice. A close, special relationship with a school in Uganda engages pupils in social action and supports pupils' understanding of the impact of Christianity on the life of that school. Pupils' knowledge and understanding of the impact of Christianity on the lives of people in the wider world are not fully developed.



	The effectiveness of RE is		Excellent	
	<p>RE teaching and learning is excellent. High quality provision using Understanding Christianity, the Emmanuel Project, the local church and religious backgrounds of the school community results in a rich and engaging curriculum. Differentiation is strong with appropriate support and challenge ensuring the needs of all pupils are met. Pupils engage keenly with the learning which uses imaginative, and creative RE teaching consistently across the school. Rigorous and regular innovative assessment and recording ensures secure and effective development of RE knowledge and understanding. Consequently, pupils make excellent progress.</p>			
Information				
School	St Andrew's Church of England School, Crawley	Inspection date	11 November 2022	
URN	126047	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	
Diocese/District	Chichester	Pupils on roll	209	
Acting Headteacher	Jennifer Wise			
Chair of Governors	Richard Quirk			
Inspector	Richard Dyer	No.	513	