

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Wesley Methodist Primary School	
Address	Forth Road, Radcliffe, Manchester, M26 4PX
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

School's vision
Shine like stars as children of God. This is based on Philippians 2:15.
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this school, the Christian vision is a golden thread, weaving relentlessly through the curriculum, relationships and the life of the school. The headteacher promotes and drives the vision with energy and passion. As a result, pupils are challenged, supported and able to develop. • The Christian vision is aspirational for the whole school community. Pupils with additional needs are fully included and have their individual needs met extremely well. This means they grow in confidence, develop key skills and make very good progress. • Relationships between all members of the school community are excellent. Productive partnerships with the church, local and global communities enable pupils to live out the Christian vision and values. Consequently, the school has a tangible impact beyond the school gates. • The Christian vision is clearly expressed, and deeply explored through collective worship. The established partnership with the church community continually challenges and improves practice. Pupils have a key role in planning and leading thought provoking acts of worship. This makes an important contribution to the deepening of their spiritual development. • Leadership of religious education (RE) is excellent. The highly skilled subject leader is totally committed to driving improvement in RE. As a result, staff are trained to deliver RE provision of the highest quality. Some teachers have not yet had the opportunity to share effective practice with other schools.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To further develop skills in the teaching of RE by observing effective practice in other schools. This will ensure pupils continue to flourish through the provision of high quality RE.

Inspection findings

The deeply Christian vision seeps through every aspect of this school's work. The transformational Christian leadership of the forward-thinking headteacher leads to rapid and incisive vision development. The school community take shared ownership in moulding and driving the vision with commitment. Staff and governors' meetings have the vision at their core. The school's emblem, designed and democratically selected by pupils, inventively promotes the vision. Parents are consulted about the biblical roots underpinning the vision. These are chosen to reflect the highly inclusive ethos of the school and the ambition for each individual. Parents demonstrate commitment by active involvement in school life. The Parent Teacher Association assists families in need by providing uniform. High aspirations are evident across the school's work.

Leaders rigorously review the effectiveness of the vision with robust monitoring. This has a marked impact on the school's strategic direction and effectiveness. The school readily embraces links with formal partners, including the Epworth Education Trust. This contributes greatly to driving the vision and the determined quest to provide the best experience for 'Wesley children.' Leaders pro-actively engage with local schools, and the Methodist Academies and Schools' Trust, to provide professional development opportunities. Future church school leaders are developed through 'Aspiring Senior Leaders' training. This deepens understanding of the school as a church school.

This is a very happy school where the vision fosters excellent relationships. Members of the school community receive unwavering encouragement. Staff feel valued and part of a 'lovely family team'. They say they 'Do all we can' to give the pupils the best offer. They know their pupils exceptionally well and tailor provision to breed success. Parents describe the visible impact the vision has on their children, spiritually and academically. Those with additional needs, or who may be vulnerable, are quickly identified, receive high quality interventions and are enabled to thrive and progress. Parents say the school brings out the best in their children, letting them 'Shine like stars.' As a result, they make very good progress from their starting points.

The well-being of pupils and adults has high priority. Leaders and the church community compassionately support them during difficult times. Pupils access interventions, for example, 'Sailing the Anxiety Boat' to promote good mental health. The investment in pastoral staff, and well-being days for adults, lead to an environment where all feel safe and cared-for. As a result, attendance is high and pupils enjoy coming to school.

The vision has rejuvenated the school's curriculum, which is broad, relevant and crafted around the school's unique context. The Fruits of the Holy Spirit are at its heart and it meets the needs of learners exceptionally well. It develops enquiring, resilient learners. Adults have the freedom to 'shine,' offering their own skills and talents. Consequently, the curriculum excites and inspires children and impacts positively on academic and spiritual development. The school is proud of its commitment and therapeutic approach to outdoor provision. It generates a sense of awe and wonder and a deeper understanding of themselves and the world. Pupils demonstrate impressive stewardship of the environment by taking action to reduce pollution and protect wildlife. Character development has a transformational impact on pupils' confidence

Strong links with the church are mutually beneficial. Church members deliver school readiness programmes and pupils introduce the congregation to songs of worship. The minister leads worship in school, expertly unpicking the vision's roots and contributing significantly to spiritual development. Pupils have a keen understanding of service, are



committed to good citizenship and take on many leadership roles. They willingly show acts of kindness without expecting anything in return. The impact of the vision outside the school gates is remarkable. The established link with the local community means pupils instigate imaginative social action projects. These include litter picks, Fair Trade breakfasts and afternoon teas for elderly residents. Community members attended a candlelit vigil with the school following the Queen's death. Local residents benefit from an allotment provided by school. They work alongside pupils, growing and sharing fresh produce. This innovative practice inspires hope and supports well-being in the community.

The highly inclusive nature of the school celebrates the uniqueness of all. Pupils say everyone is treated equally. They discuss forgiveness with maturity and compassion. They courageously stand up to injustice. Pupils confidently address discrimination, for example, they perform a 'racism rap' during a talent show. They have an impressive understanding of inequality, inspiring an array of charity work. Items are taken to a foodbank during Harvest celebrations. Through the 'Edukid' link, 'Wesley Warriors' gain insight into childhood poverty in Africa. They connect with, and raise money for, pupils in Uganda.

Collective worship is a joyous expression of the vision. The worship committee plan and lead 'Wake up and Worship,' which is live-streamed into classrooms. Church members knowledgeably support staff in developing worship provision. Consequently, well-planned acts of collective worship are an integral part of school life. They explicitly promote the vision in an inclusive, invitational and highly inspiring way. Pupils appreciate that Christians worship in various ways and participate enthusiastically. Their singing is energetic and uplifting. A highlight for families is a weekly celebration of the 'Fruits of the Holy Spirit'. Pupils respond to worship in class worship books. Prayer and reflection play a key role in school life. Pupils recite the school prayer with pride and say prayer calms them during difficult times. They reflect deeply on their own experiences and convictions. They access quiet spaces, including a prayer garden. Consequently, they spontaneously write prayers and want to pray at home. The shared understanding of spiritual development, and the creative development of this through the curriculum, contribute substantially to the flourishing of pupils.

RE gives pupils a deep understanding of Christianity and its core concepts. They have an impressive knowledge of the Bible. They describe Jesus as a saviour, saying that He teaches Christians to make a difference in people's lives. Pupils discuss the Holy Trinity. They say God is a Father because 'He watches over us and protects us.' The rich RE curriculum provides a safe space for pupils to reflect on their beliefs. The development of critical thinking is a key curriculum driver and equips pupils to competently address and challenge 'big questions.' The curriculum gives pupils a wide knowledge of Christianity and world faiths. Pupils speak confidently about places of worship, holy books and religious festivals. Staff attend a variety of RE training and use assessment procedures to track progress. Leaders use partnerships to share effective practice in RE. This impacts positively on leadership of RE and the quality of the RE curriculum. Not all teachers benefit from sharing practice with other schools.



Information			
School	Wesley Methodist Primary School	Inspection date	27 January 2023
URN	146996	VC/VA/Academy	Academy
Diocese/District	Methodist	Pupils on roll	311
MAT/Federation	Member of Epworth Education Trust (Multi-Academy Trust)		
Headteacher	Rhys Jones		
Chair of Governors	Andrew Morrison		
Inspector	Anne Barker	No.	959