



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Martin's Church of England Primary School, Worle	
Address	Spring Hill, Weston-super-Mare, BS22 9BQ
School vision	
<p>Though many, we make up one. Underpinned by St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians 12:12 'Just as a body though one, has many parts, but all its parts form one body'</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders demonstrate a clear understanding of the Christian vision of the school and the way it is theologically underpinned through biblical teaching. This strongly affects pupils' learning, wellbeing and behaviour. • A supportive caring culture is inspired by the Christian vision and set of values. This ensures that adults and pupils are treated well. • Collective worship, shaped by the school's Anglican foundation is at the heart of daily life. It provides meaningful moments for all to flourish spiritually. • Very effective leadership in religious education (RE) has established a challenging and relevant curriculum which enhances pupils' learning. As a result, pupils enjoy RE and this has a positive impact on their understanding of a range of faiths and worldviews, including Christianity. • The words of the vision describing how all are needed and valued, shape a culture of inclusion and equity. Carefully planned support for pupils considered to be vulnerable ensures they have the opportunity to achieve well. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that robust systems are in place to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the Christian vision. This is to further strengthen the way the Christian vision drives the work of the school. • Embed the school's shared understanding of spiritual development and deepen experiences across the school. This is to enable opportunities that can have a positive impact on pupils' learning, wellbeing and spiritual flourishing. • Raise the profile of global issues of equality and justice in the curriculum. This is so that pupils feel equipped and empowered to engage in social action projects that can make a difference. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>The vision of St Martin's rooted in the words of St Paul is widely understood, articulated and has a very positive impact. A set of carefully chosen and well-established Christian values weave through all aspects of daily life and unite the school. The vision and values have been a constant source of strength through recent years of changes in leadership. At the heart of all interactions is the shared understanding that all within the school community are needed to enable everyone to flourish.</p>	

Parents say that they feel welcomed and fully included and value the way staff understand their children. The rich partnership with the local church is both practical and spiritual and means the vision is a living reality. The influence of the vision is clearly evident on pupils' attitudes and behaviour and learning. The multi academy trust (MAT) promotes very beneficial relationships between their Church schools. The school's partnership with the diocese is fully embedded and valued. Focused monitoring by senior school leaders, has ensured an understanding of the effectiveness of the vision. For example, some areas for development have been accurately identified. However, the self-evaluation process is underdeveloped with limited involvement of governors and other members of the school community.

The school's curriculum is shaped by its vision and provides rich and creative experiences. The vision promotes a whole school collaborative approach to learning summarized by pupils as 'everyone can help anybody'. St Martin's is fully focused on providing a stimulating, relevant and engaging curriculum which meets the needs of pupils. Opportunities are constantly being adapted to best develop pupils' wide range of talents and interests. These activities include sports, arts and crafts, drama and food technology. Bold decisions are made with the curriculum to help ensure that barriers to learning can be overcome. As a result of their actions, the potential of pupils identified as disadvantaged is being transformed. Consequently, pupils enjoy their learning and value their time in school. Staff have an understanding of spiritual development which is at an early stage of development.

Collective worship embeds St Martin's vision and values in their biblical roots making them central to the school day. The words 'bring joy to one another' are said as all leave the hall at the end of collective worship. Consequently, the vision of a caring cohesive school community is embedded in daily life. The vicar regularly leads worship and is a frequent presence. He explicitly links the Christian vision with Anglican tradition to promote spiritual flourishing. The local church community welcome classes to the church building to celebrate Christian festivals. They greatly value the contributions made by pupils to their Sunday services. Collective worship provides a vibrant yet peaceful space in the busy school day. Times of quiet reflection, prayer and joyous inspirational singing promote a deep sense of spiritual flourishing which sustains and inspires. Worship times are carefully planned. Support is provided to staff who lead worship opportunities and this has a beneficial effect. Pupils' views are sought and used to understand and raise the impact of worship on the life of the school.

St Martin's is a warm and caring community where all are treated well. Strong relationships inspired by the vision and associated values such as friendship and kindness are central to this. The vision has a positive impact on the way pupils support and care for one another ensuring it is a living reality. Younger pupils value the time they spend with their older buddies at lunchtime. Difficult situations between pupils are sought to be resolved by forgiveness and reconciliation. Relationships between pupils are caring and supportive reflecting the vision and bullying is rare. The student council requested a special wellbeing day for all, reflecting their understanding of its importance in school life. Staff are a stable and cohesive team, encouraged and supported by school leaders who prioritise their mental health and wellbeing. As a result, staff feel cared for and their morale is high.

A calm and respectful atmosphere permeates daily life and is evident throughout the school. Difference and diversity are welcomed and celebrated in this accepting community. Groups of pupils enjoy visiting local care home residents and interact compassionately with mutual benefits for all. Their support for the local food bank is one way pupils include the wider community into their 'one body'. Special curriculum activities such as those offered during Black History Month inspire pupils to achieve well. Pupils are passionate about caring for the natural environment. A group was appalled by the amount of litter on the local beach and wrote to their MP suggesting ideas for its reduction. This social project resulted in a positive outcome, with increased litter bins.

RE is an engaging and inspiring subject reflecting the Christian vision. The recently rewritten curriculum is well planned to meet the needs of all pupils. The use of ‘big questions’ enhances pupils’ engagement in RE and stimulates powerful discussions. As a result, pupils enjoy RE because they find the curriculum inspires learning which is challenging and motivating. They recognise its relevance to their lives and develop a good understanding and respect for people from a range of faiths and other world views. Pupils are encouraged to reflect and think deeply about their beliefs and those of others. Consequently, RE makes a substantial contribution to pupils’ spiritual development. The RE subject leader participates in current training from the diocese and MAT which enables the staff to benefit from relevant professional development. In this way, staff feel highly supported which results in positive outcomes for pupils.

The inspection findings indicate that St Martin’s Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	17 November 2023	URN	144921
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	314
Diocese	Bath & Wells		
MAT/Federation	Kaleidoscope Multi Academy Trust		
Executive headteacher	Sue Elliott		
Chair	Mark Preddy		
Inspector	Daphne Spitzer	No.	37