

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Framfield Church of England Primary School

Vision

Be the Best You Can Be; Living 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

In our Church of England Federation, we take strength in collaboration, yet celebrate uniqueness. As schools, we may be small but together we encourage children to be the best they can be so they are ready to make their mark on the world. We welcome the child yet embrace the whole family. We celebrate our rural environment yet aspire to look beyond our boundaries. We strive for knowledge and gratefully accept opportunities that come our way to enable us to live life in all its fullness. We all take a pride in our Federation as we follow in Jesus' example.

Framfield Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Strengths

- The Christian vision is central to the life and work of the school. It is the firm anchor that has enabled the school community to flourish, including through very challenging times.
- The rich extra-curricular offer, flowing from the vision, gives pupils meaningful opportunities to develop their gifts, talents and abilities.
- Collective worship is a valued part of school life and an important vehicle for spiritual development. Times of prayer and reflection are respected by pupils, providing them with meaningful moments of stillness.
- Inspired by the vision, the school is a highly nurturing and supportive community. Pupils and adults feel empowered to be and do their best and also passionately desire this for each other.
- Pupils demonstrate a clear understanding of a range of world faiths in religious education (RE). They value opportunities for religious debates and discussions.

Development Points

- Embed the school's shared understanding of spirituality and the way planned opportunities exist through the curriculum for spiritual development. This is to deepen the way that adults and pupils can flourish spiritually.
- Extend the opportunities for pupils to understand issues of justice. This is to enhance the way they actively use their sense of personal responsibility to support others.
- Enrich learning opportunities within the RE curriculum for pupils to develop their understanding of diversity within religions. This is to deepen their understanding of how people of different beliefs live out their personal faith.



Inspection Findings

The school's Christian vision empowers both pupils and adults to thrive. It has been the catalyst and bedrock of support for the school community during challenging times. Leaders' commitment to collaboration, while celebrating individuality, ensures pupils are guided to achieve their unique best. By instilling self-belief and mutual respect, the school fosters a sense of justice and equity of provision. Leaders and governors ensure that the vision actively drives their actions. This creates a strategic and supportive environment for pupils and adults to encounter 'life in its fullness.' Through this, adults benefit from a culture where they feel supported by leaders and each other, enabling them to flourish. Flowing from the vision, well-known Christian values provide a strong foundation for adults and pupils to grow. They are nurtured to be the best they can be. Leaders make bold, courageous decisions to ensure pupils receive quality provision, within a culture of compassion, care and kindness. Rooted in its Christian vision, the school equips pupils with the confidence and skills necessary to navigate the world beyond the school gates.

The Christian vision shapes the ambitious curriculum and the wide range of activities that the school provides. Enrichment activities such as engagement in tournaments and specialist input from visitors extend pupils' learning and social development. The school offers a diverse range of extra-curricular activities including prayer, drama, French and various sports clubs. These activities cater to various interests and expand learning opportunities for pupils as well as developing their individual gifts and talents. Visits, such as educational trips to France and London, significantly broaden pupils' horizons and include enriching spiritual moments. In addition, initiatives like the new reflection area in the playground contribute to pupils' development. Opportunities for spiritual development are planned throughout the curriculum. However, this is at an early stage so the impact of this on pupils is limited. Inspired by the vision, pupils with additional needs are supported well, enabling them to flourish.

Collective worship is at the heart of the school, nurturing spiritual growth among both pupils and adults. Pupils and adults value meaningful opportunities for prayer and reflection during worship, with time to sing creating a sense of togetherness. Spaces for calm and contemplation, alongside lunchtime prayers and pupil-led prayer sessions produce a sense of pause which enhances their spiritual development. Anti-bullying messages taught through stories such as The Good Samaritan resonate and enrich the positive behaviour of the community. Pupils are enthusiastically independent in their engagement during worship, taking the lead, which develops their own personal development and confidence. The partnership with the local church allows pupils to develop spiritually through engagement in key services within the Christian calendar. These events bring adults and pupils together in a spirit of unity. As a result of the impact of worship, they feel embraced, valued and ready to make their mark on the world.

The school is a highly nurturing environment where pupils and adults are cherished, enriching relationships between them. As a result of this, and the direct impact of the vision, a nurturing culture of respect, kindness and inclusivity is created. This enhances the way that pupils are able to show resilience and confidence. Weekly celebration worship highlight achievements, with pupils receiving certificates for their efforts, fostering a sense of pride and accomplishment. Pupils are encouraged to embrace their individuality and take risks in a supportive setting, knowing they are known and cared for. Communication is clear and consistent, ensuring parents and carers feel a sense of being informed and involved. The loving environment which exists within the school fosters a culture where pupils are kind and treat each other with a high level of tolerance and understanding. The school's



commitment to inclusivity ensures that pupils, regardless of background or ability, have the opportunity to thrive and succeed. This is enhanced through strong and collaborate relationships between home and school.

An active culture of justice and responsibility, driven by the Christian vision is very evident. This inspires pupils to use their sense of responsibility to support causes that are meaningful to them. The vision and associated values nurture pupils' sense of empathy and consideration towards the needs of others. Through the school's global connections, they seek to broaden the way they challenge injustice. School councillors advocate for impactful and sustainable change, ensuring their efforts are meaningful and long-lasting. By engaging in charitable causes, pupils grow into compassionate and responsible individuals, ready to contribute positively to society. However, their full understanding of the possible impact of initiatives to promote justice is less developed.

RE is highly effective. The balanced and relevant curriculum supports pupils' sequential knowledge of Bible teachings and an understanding of a range of worldviews and religions. This helps to create a culture of acceptance amongst the pupils. The curriculum is designed to encourage big questions, making RE purposeful and engaging. The positive partnership with the diocese and the federation provides effective professional development ensuring teachers are confident with the RE curriculum. However, opportunities for pupils to learn about how people live out their beliefs through the curriculum and wider experiences are limited.

Pupils progress well in RE. The subject is taught in creative and engaging ways. Staff are supported by leaders to embed specialist subject knowledge into their practice, thereby enhancing the overall quality of teaching. Valued training and professional development enhance teachers' knowledge and understanding of the depth and range of the curriculum. This enhances pupils' engagement and progress. Effective assessments encourage creativity among pupils such as the use of debate and artwork. Assessment informs teaching and builds on pupils' individual needs and strengths well.

Information

Address	The Street, Framfield, TN22 5NR		
Date of inspection	9 July 2025	URN	114550
Type of school	Voluntary aided	No. of pupils	80
Diocese	Chichester		
MAT/Federation	The St Thomas à Becket Church of England Federation		
Headteacher	Claire Roberts		
Chair of Governors	Tim Murray		
Inspector	Andrew Wignal		