

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Canon Pyon Church of England Primary School	
Address	Canon Pyon, Hereford, HR4 8PF
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	Good
The impact of collective worship	Good

School's vision
Based on the parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13: 31-32), we teach that "(the) smallest of all the seeds becomes the greatest of trees". To make it more accessible for all stakeholders, we have broken this down further: The root of our vision is the acronym TREES. Together. Respect. Encourage, Endeavour. Self-belief.
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders' unwavering focus on the school's biblical vision ensures that all flourish here. Relationships are treasured within this Christian community. • All pupils are celebrated in their uniqueness and their ambition is encouraged. As a result, they make bold decisions in their learning and are confident in exploring their own spirituality. • The school's vision guides relationships with the church and the community, with all being loved and nurtured. However wider-reaching partnerships with the Diocese and local schools are underdeveloped. • Collective worship provides effective engagement opportunities for spiritual development in daily acts of reflection. However, there are limited opportunities for pupils to plan, lead and evaluate worship. • Pupils develop high levels of subject knowledge in religious education (RE). However, there are limited opportunities to deepen their knowledge of religions other than Christianity.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the school engages with a range of effective Church schools and with diocesan initiatives. This will enable the strategic sharing of good practice and enhance the school's provision. • Regularly involve pupils in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship to deepen their spiritual understanding. • Broaden pupils' experience of visitors of a range of religions and worldviews in order to deepen their knowledge and further enhance their cultural and spiritual development.



Inspection findings

Canon Pyon is a loving Christian school, at the heart of the local community. With close links to the church, leaders ensure the biblically linked vision is central to all decisions they make. This vision, based upon the parable of the mustard seed, 'the smallest of all the seeds becomes the greatest of trees', inspires all. The vision, coupled with carefully selected Christian values, is shared and celebrated by the whole community. Leaders explain that the school values of generosity and respect have a significant impact on the flourishing of all. Combined projects and wide-ranging provision for local families make the school an integral part of the local area. Consequently, all pupils and adults work together effectively to create a harmonious atmosphere. Leaders consistently champion the school's values, explaining how respect, courage and service have been integral throughout recent local and worldwide challenges. This has aided the school's successful navigation through change, leading to the recent close collaborative benefits with two other local schools. However, wider-reaching enrichment partnerships are underdeveloped.

Trustees are successfully involved with the promotion and development of the school's Christian vision. Together with school leaders, they accurately evaluate the school's strengths and clearly identify areas to improve. Leaders ensure the curriculum is developing pupils who are considerate, thoughtful and confident citizens. They have a well-established understanding of how the school's Christian vision underpins all aspects of daily life. Parents champion this small school's inclusive nature as 'a welcoming family, which warmly embraces difference and diversity'. Consequently, all pupils feel safe and declare Canon Pyon to be a 'happy' school. Staff explain that the school value of friendship is pivotal and the importance of the school's Christian vision and values in their lives. As a result, strong bonds are formed between pupils and across the whole school community. Church links are a particular strength, with joint projects and the regular gathering for Christian festivals and other services. Pupils, staff, trustees and parents alike speak positively of their recent Experience Easter celebration.

The school's vision shapes the way spiritual development is fostered throughout the school community. Trustees describe their role to provide the school community with the 'nutrients' to grow the whole individual. Leaders ensure spiritual development is achieved through explicit curriculum planning. This is further enhanced by reflective opportunities in and around the school, where pupils can think and pray. In addition to these planned moments of awe and wonder, staff seize every opportunity to pause and ask a thought-provoking question. This provision develops the pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness well. They are confident to speak up about matters of injustice. Staff encourage thoughtful discussions, fostering reflection and the consideration of solutions. Despite the interruption of the pandemic, the school remained in touch with its families to provide significant support for all. The pupils' ability to articulate their understanding about the challenges faced by others is impressive. As a result, they explain the importance the school places on loving all, expressed through the committed support of charities. Examples of this are the regular and generous food collections for the local foodbank, as well as providing local families with food parcels. This significant support, during the most challenging of times, fully embodies the school's vision and values. Leaders explained that their Christian value of service and respect, compels them to support those in need of help.

The Christian vision inspires leaders to ensure pastoral care wraps around all pupils and adults in school. Consequently, all decisions made are thoughtful and compassionate. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are well supported. Leaders demonstrate their commitment to inclusion by strategically allocating resources to meet all



pupils' needs. This successful approach is adopted by the pupils who know that it is important for them to show respect to all people, regardless of their background. This is reflected in the school's involvement in, and commitment to, fostering links with the local community, both with the local church and beyond. As a result, the school's inclusive nature ensures that all are welcomed, celebrated and enabled to flourish.

The leadership roles that pupils take give them a powerful voice. They are not afraid to highlight world problems and articulately highlight their views on the value of every person. For example, pupils explain that 'no one should go hungry.' They describe the importance of their harvest collections for the more needy in their community. Alongside this runs an ingrained sense of forgiveness and reconciliation, as promoted in the school's behaviour policy. Pupils link the need for forgiveness to the life of Jesus and the Christian festival of Easter. This in turn develops appreciative and well-rounded individuals whose achievements are recognised and celebrated as they flourish.

Collective worship is a profound moment of the school day, where everyone is recognised and valued. It is uplifting and relevant, as well as embodying the school's vision. Pupils explain that they are like seeds, with the school nurturing them to flourish. Consequently, worship ensures the key Christian messages permeate all aspects of school life. Pupils are guided to consider their 'neighbour' and their own contribution to the wider world around them. This has led to specific action, such as the support of the local hospice. The singing and praise in worship is joyous and energetic. Christian traditions are clearly visible throughout the school, with pupils able to articulate the Christian belief in the Trinity. There is a recognisable structure and pattern to the liturgy which creates familiarity and routine. This provides pupils with time to focus, thereby effectively enhancing their spiritual development. They are also able to talk about the Christian values that underpin worship. For example pupils know that trust is an important ingredient in life, enabling everyone to learn and grow together. Pupils are keen to lead worship. Any pupils that wish to do so are increasingly involved in preparation, leading and evaluating. However, this has not taken place regularly. As a result, opportunities for further spiritual development are missed. Church representatives visit the school frequently and support by leading collective worship. Drama, storytelling and skilful questioning provide opportunities for pupils to consider and reflect on their own roles in society. As a result, they demonstrate a positive influence on the school community and beyond.

The RE curriculum effectively weaves together the locally agreed syllabus with additional high quality learning resources. Leaders ensure pupils learn appropriate knowledge, incorporating a range of inquiry approaches. Learning objectives, framed as key questions, invite a response and develop pupils who are inquisitive and respect each other's views. The school cultivates pupils who appreciate that the world is a diverse place. As a result, they recognise and are respectful of difference. However, pupils do not have a deep understanding of the range of religions and worldviews, due to a lack of rich experiences.

Canon Pyon is a welcoming, inclusive, nurturing family where all staff ensure that pupils and adults flourish. It is driven, and living, by its distinctive Christian vision.



Information			
School	Canon Pyon Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	4 October 2022
URN	139308	VC/VA/Academy	
Diocese/District	Hereford	Pupils on roll	71
Mr	Alex Davies		
Chair of Trust Board	Mr Christopher Kent		
Inspector	David Scorer	No.	841