

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Clipston Endowed VC Primary School

Vision

At Clipston Endowed VC Primary School, in keeping with our mission statement, everyone is valued as an individual and helped to flourish in their own unique way within a Christian environment. Our Christian Vision, 'Every Child Matters to God' is at the core of everything we do.

'Be Kind ~ Be Your Best ~ Be Happy.'

'Do to others as you would have them do unto you' Luke 6:31.

Clipston Endowed VC 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

- At this vibrant and welcoming school, the Christian vision is deeply embedded enabling pupils and adults to flourish. The school's Christian values underpin the vision and effectively inspire adults and pupils to be kind, to be their best and to be happy. The vision shapes the curriculum offering a wide range of experiences that enable pupils, including the vulnerable, to thrive.
- A creative approach to collective worship enables pupils to understand, engage with and apply the Christian vision in daily life. It provides opportunities for reflection and celebration and makes a significant contribution to the spiritual development of the school community.
- Committed staff are steadfast in their nurture of pupils. Their actions show that they are determined to ensure 'Every Pupil Matters to God.' As a result, pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are prioritised and succeed in a loving and nurturing environment.
- There is a strong understanding of justice within the school. Pupils feel they can speak out when something is not fair, they feel listened to. Pupils understand how their contribution to making a fairer world extends beyond charity.
- Expert leadership has carefully planned a religious education (RE) curriculum that effectively builds on prior learning. Staff and pupils respect similarity, diversity and difference between world religions.

Development Points

- Enable a greater number of stakeholders, including pupils, to be involved in shaping and evaluating worship. This is so that leaders know the impact of worship upon the spiritual flourishing of the school community.
- Embed the policy, shared language and understanding of spirituality in both collective worship and the curriculum. This is in order to enable pupils to understand and confidently articulate their growing spiritual awareness.



Inspection Findings

The Christian Vision is the driving force at this wonderfully vibrant and welcoming school. The vision is faithful to the Anglican foundation of the school. It is clearly understood by staff, parents and pupils. It powerfully shapes the work of the school and transforms the lives of many. Leaders and staff make every effort to provide the best possible education and life experiences for pupils. Pupils explain how the vision impacts positively on their daily lives. School leaders work to ensure that each pupil can shine holistically in what they refer to as the 'Clipston Family.' Through the school's Christian values pupils are taught to care for friends, family and the wider community. They show their understanding of the importance of the values in their kindness towards each other and in their exemplary behaviour. Achievements are recognised and celebrated through the school's vibrant displays and in awards worship. Regular monitoring allows leaders and governors to evaluate the impact of the vision and how it leads to flourishing.

At Clipston the Christian vision is carefully woven throughout the curriculum. Pupils are offered a rich and varied range of connected learning opportunities. The curriculum challenges pupils to think for themselves and express their own views and opinions. Leaders carefully and regularly monitor the quality of provision, so that individual needs are met. Pupils talk enthusiastically about 'Wow' moments in their learning and the wide range of enrichment activities they encounter. Pupils confidently articulate what spirituality means to them and reflect on how they can connect with something greater than themselves. The 'Proud to Be Clipston Passport' enables pupils to celebrate their cultural and spiritual development. School leaders have agreed a definition of spirituality and identified how the school offers opportunities for awe and wonder. Opportunities for pupils' spiritual development are not formally planned into the curriculum. As a consequence, pupils' abilities to be reflective about their own beliefs and perspectives on life are limited.

Worship is inclusive, inviting and inspiring. The use of current events and Bible stories successfully develop the pupils' understanding of the school's Christian values. Pupils and adults can recognise the impact of collective worship on their own lives both in school and at home. Pupils sing and sign their school song 'My Lighthouse.' Sitting in mixed age groups older pupils encourage younger ones to join in. Their enthusiasm is compelling. The local community and parents value receiving the school newsletter which informs them of the weekly focus of collective worship. Pupils take an active role in the planning and presentation of key services at All Saints Church. The local community and lay readers actively contribute to services held both in the school and in the church. Governors and the diocesan consultant regularly monitor the provision and give impactful feedback. This leads to revisions that enhance the impact of worship upon the spiritual flourishing of adults and pupils.

The application of the school's vision underpins and builds strong relationships. A real strength of the school is how well everyone is treated. The detailed knowledge staff have of the needs of each pupil is extensive. Adults use this knowledge to ensure that everyone receives effective support and therefore thrives. The governors take courageous actions including making financial decisions to provide significant amounts of intensive support. Parents value how pupils are supported by staff. Pupils have a secure understanding of protected characteristics and their responsibility to respect and support diversity. The behaviour policy reflects the school's Christian values. For example, adults help pupils to explore their feelings and emotions. Pupils are taught to disagree well and have a good understanding of forgiveness and reconciliation. Wellbeing is a priority. The peace garden, book nook and reflection areas provide peaceful spaces for quiet thought. Adults recognise when colleagues face challenges. Support is welcomed by recipients because of the culture of care and trust which exists at the school. Adults are



thankful for the actions senior leaders put in place to support their wellbeing and to manage workload. Staff retention is excellent because adults feel respected, supported and that their skills and expertise are recognised and developed. Pupil absence is well below national averages. Pupils and adults want to work and learn at this compassionate school.

The school offers a wealth of young leadership opportunities. Pupils are proud to be members of the school and eco councils. The school creates a culture of understanding justice and consequent responsibilities. Pupils are kind to each other. They encourage others to flourish through their roles on the sports crew or as playground buddies. Developing a compassionate understanding of diversity is a key driver for the school. Pupils independently seek to engage in charitable actions. They initiate litter picks, food bank collections and cook lunch for local residents. They successfully devise creative ways to raise money for charities, often of personal significance. Pupils are secure in their understanding that their thoughts will be heard and that the school community will be resolutely supportive. These opportunities develop their understanding of the school values of courage, justice, love and responsibility. Pupils care deeply about global justice. There are well established relationships with a school in a contrasting setting in Leicester and one in India. These provide a focus for social action. The regular exchange of photographs, gifts and drawings extends pupils cultural perspectives and helps to break down misconceptions.

RE is expertly led with enthusiasm, drive and determination. The subject has a high profile across the school. The curriculum meets Church school requirements. Pupils demonstrate a secure understanding of the Christian story and how this shapes Christian beliefs and practices. The curriculum is well-sequenced, diverse and challenging. A wide range of creative activities enhance pupils' knowledge and understanding of a range of world faiths. Pupils feel safe and secure in this wonderfully inclusive school. They are happy to share their views in a climate of respect. They explain that they know it is possible to disagree agreeably. Pupils are proud of their knowledge. They demonstrate this by singing about The Parables or explaining their understanding of others perspective of the world. Pupils have a secure understanding of the impact of religious and non-religious worldviews on how adults live their lives. The school effectively focusses on developing pupils' ability to recognise connections in their learning. The school values the high-quality diocesan support it receives to develop staff confidence and expertise. Governors regularly contribute to the monitoring of RE and are perceptive in their feedback to leaders. Pupils and adults shine in this inclusive school where difference is celebrated and woven throughout an inspiring curriculum.

Information

Address	High Street, Clipston, Market Harborough, LE16 9RU		
Date	19 th November 2024	URN	122013
Type of school	Voluntary Controlled	No. of pupils	95
Diocese/District	Peterborough		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Emma Mercer		
Chair of Governors	Sarah McElroy		
Inspector	Gillian Paterson		