

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Andover Church of England Primary School

Vision

At Andover Church of England Primary School, our Christian vision is to create an inclusive school that recognises the individual starting points, challenges, interests and experiences of every child and family.

We believe happy, engaged children are known, understood and loved in a safe, secure, high quality learning environment will achieve the high aspirations we set for them academically, socially and emotionally.

We will provide a curriculum of new experiences, exciting learning where they are challenged, supported, championed, valued and celebrated in all their learning with reading at the heart of our provision.

We are proud to live each day through the Christian Values of Love, Courage and Forgiveness.

Andover 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.

Notable Strengths

- The clearly articulated Christian vision enables the school to be a place of love and hope. As a result, there is an embedded culture of support and ambition. This drives a forward momentum in school improvement.
- Dignity and respect abound throughout the school enabling pupils and adults to treat each other well. As a result, pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) flourish on their journey.
- Collective worship provides a meaningful start to the school day and a drawing together of the school community. Worship is relevant and engaging and is an expression of the Christian vision and values. Meaningful lessons from collective worship challenge thinking and inspire character development.
- Rooted in its Christian vision to nurture individuals and build firm foundations, the school provides enriching experiences that spark curiosity and develop confidence. Vision led decisions ensure that pupils access an enriched and inclusive curriculum.
- Leaders have carefully crafted a curriculum for religious education (RE) that is bespoke for the pupils at Andover Church of England Primary School. It enhances pupils' knowledge and understanding of a range of worldviews and religions, including Christianity.

Development Points

- Develop a shared understanding and language for spirituality. This is so that pupils and adults are enabled to recognise the times when they grow spiritually.
- Develop pupils' opportunities to demonstrate their appreciation of justice and responsibility. This is so that they can independently take actions for positive change.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Andover Church of England Primary School has been on a significant journey of improvement. Driven by its Christian vision, leaders have made bold and brave decisions in the best interests of the school community. The supportive governing body know and articulate the vision well. Governance discussions are held in the light of the vision. There is a palpable sense of stability alongside a drive for continued improvement. The developments are being embraced by the whole school community and a tangible sense of hope for the future is evident. This warm and welcoming school is at the heart of the town of Andover. It is described by a number of stakeholders as a 'village school in the centre of town'. Inspired by the vision, leaders have created a warm and compassionate culture where adults and pupils feel cared for. As a result, staff are valued and are supported personally and professionally. The vision is being lived out daily through the embedded values of love, forgiveness and courage. Rooted in scripture, each of the values is well established in the language and life of the school. Pupils have an understanding of how to apply the values meaningfully in their own lives. The strong partnership with the diocese has been integral in the school's journey of improvement.

Vision and Curriculum

Underpinned by the vision, the curriculum is enabling pupils to grow in their learning. Strategic decisions in the development of the curriculum are ensuring that it is bespoke and adapted to the needs of the pupils. Staff tailor and scaffold teaching and support so that pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) can thrive. Additional one to one and small group sessions with specialist practitioners, help pupils to emotionally balance and engage with their learning. Targeted support and an open-door policy, provide parents with reassurance and support. Leaders prioritise reading and this is promoted through providing a wide range of inclusive and engaging books. Clubs and increasing opportunities for trips broaden horizons, encouraging pupils to discover new interests and grow in confidence. Planning for spiritual flourishing within the curriculum is in its early stages. Leaders are not mapping where pupils can explore big questions across curriculum subjects. Consequently, a shared understanding and language of spirituality is not established. As a result, pupils lack the depth of understanding needed to recognise their own spirituality.

Worship and Spirituality

Close and mutually beneficial relationships with local clergy shape the worshipping life of the school. Visits to the local church are highly valued, providing moments to explore and enjoy Christian festivals. Pupils and adults enjoy coming together each day for collective worship, it is a time valued by the whole school community. All adults are encouraged and supported to lead worship which increases engagement and promotes spiritual growth. Carefully planned themes create opportunities for pupils to deepen their understanding of the rich diversity of Christian practice. Drama and song are used effectively to make Bible stories memorable. Time is also given for peace and reflection; pupils and adults appreciate these quiet moments. Those leading worship are sensitive to the variety of religious and non-religious beliefs within the school community. The use of invitational language reinforces the harmonious atmosphere that welcomes all. Pupils from the faith council contribute to the preparation and delivery of worship, a role they are proud to hold. This leadership position builds confidence in the pupils and enables them to flourish spiritually.

Vision and School Culture

Inspired by the Christian vision, leaders create a caring and inclusive culture where pupils feel safe, supported and ready to learn. Staff help pupils build respectful relationships through calm, thoughtful support that encourages kindness and trust. As a result, pupils know that they are valued and grow in confidence. Teaching and learning opportunities are structured with care for pupils with additional needs. Calm spaces and sensitive adult responses help pupils continue to learn when things feel difficult. This specialist support helps pupils to stay balanced and learn about their emotional wellbeing. They are able to thrive because they are supported to be confident, unique individuals. Leaders build strong relationships with families which helps pupils to feel



happy and settled in school. Leaders and staff are approachable, which builds trust and encourages pupils and their families to seek help when needed. Staff wellbeing is a priority for leaders. They are supportive and offer practical help and access to high-quality training. As a result, adults feel confident and valued in their roles. They work together effectively to uphold the school's inclusive ethos.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Through the curriculum, pupils explore how to care for the earth and make ethical choices. The pupils are able to talk about their work on the environmental implications of using products that contain palm oil. The eco council are proactive in their work and have recently worked hard to reduce food waste in school. The school have close links with the local food bank. Pupils make donations and also visit to help with the packing and distribution of goods. These actions help them understand compassion, justice, responsibility and the importance of community support. Through the Christian vision, difference and diversity is celebrated. Pupils actively engage in fundraising for a variety of charities. However, pupils' understanding of justice is not developed. As a result, opportunities to explore and tackle injustice beyond the curriculum are not always taken.

Religious Education

RE is a priority and reflects the school's Christian vision to unlock potential through high aspirations and bespoke support for each pupil. Leaders proactively collaborate with local subject leader networks and diocesan colleagues. This ensures that the curriculum is regularly reviewed and evaluated. Teachers benefit from high quality training delivered by the diocese and well organised resources. This enables them to deepen their subject knowledge. The curriculum encourages enquiry-based activities to extend pupils' awareness of Christian beliefs and worldwide practice. Therefore, learning supports pupils to explore new information whilst reflecting on their own thoughts. A recent refresh in the leadership of RE has ensured a more robust approach to monitoring. The findings from pupil conferences and book looks enables leaders to arrange bespoke training for teachers. Consequently, improvements have been made to the curriculum and its effectiveness.

Information

Address	East Street, Andover, Hampshire, SP10 1EP		
Date	25 November 2025	URN	116269
Type of school	Voluntary Controlled	No. of pupils	202
Diocese	Winchester		
Headteacher	Fiona Tickle		
Chair of Governors	Nicky Parker		
Inspector	Rebecca Walker		