

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Brampton Abbots Church of England VA Primary

Vision

Work together, Grow together, Flourish Together

At Brampton Abbots CE Primary School, we are a Maintained School with a Church of England Christian foundation, rooted in our school vision inspired by Psalm 1:3 “You are like a tree, planted by streams of water that never run dry. Your fruit ripens in its time; your leaves never fade or curl. In all you do, you prosper.” We will offer an excellent education in a Christian context for our children through our work together. Our children will develop as well-rounded individuals as they grow together during their time in school. Ultimately, our children will achieve their potential and flourish.

Strengths

- The embedded Christian vision has a significant impact. Leaders and staff understand the needs of their community, valuing and supporting pupils for their uniqueness.
- Brampton Abbots is highly inclusive and cherishes the worth of each member of the school community. Staff go above and beyond to nurture and care for pupils. This includes the most vulnerable, those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and their families.
- Mental health and wellbeing has a high priority in school. As a result, relationships are strong, and behaviour is exemplary. There is a culture where pupils and adults are treated well.
- Inclusive collective worship is valued as a special quiet time of togetherness. Pupils appreciate opportunities for invitational prayer, both in worship and daily school life.
- Pupils enjoy religious education (RE). Leaders have developed a carefully considered RE curriculum. It equips pupils with an understanding of a range of religions and worldviews. This enables them to be deeply respectful of difference and diversity.

Development Points

- Ensure that leaders, including governors, rigorously monitor and evaluate the vision, RE and collective worship. This is to ensure that there are ongoing developments as a Church school.
- Develop a shared understanding and language of spirituality. This is so that it is explicit across the curriculum and enhances the spiritual experience of collective worship.
- Raise the profile of local and global issues of inequality and injustice within the curriculum. This is so that pupils are inspired to make a difference.



Inspection Findings

Togetherness is at the heart of the Christian vision and central to daily life at Brampton Abbotts. 'Work together, Grow together, Flourish together' focuses on nurturing the potential of pupils and staff to enable flourishing. This is guided by the teachings of Psalm 1:3. The school is part of the Oak Meadow Federation. The federation embeds a culture of collaboration and shared practice. The Christian vision is joint between the two schools in the federation. It unites them but is individually tailored to each unique context. Leaders are passionate about inclusion, experience and opportunity. Carefully planned enrichment activities promote life in all its fullness. These wide-ranging opportunities develop confidence, engender self-belief, and broaden horizons. The holistic development of each child is of high importance to leaders. In living out the vision, bold financial decisions are made so that 'no pupil misses out or gets left behind.' The vision is prominent in influencing decision making. An example is prioritising high quality support for mental health and wellbeing. It is readily voiced that the Christian vision and values have a transformational impact on daily life at Brampton Abbotts. Lives are changed through courageous decisions made by leaders and governors which are directly linked to the distinctive Christian vision. Governors live out the vision through their collaborative and supportive approach to their work which enables them to grow. They have a thorough knowledge of the school. However, there is no systematic plan which ensures that all aspects of Christian distinctiveness are rigorously evaluated. As a result, it is not clear how monitoring is leading to sustained improvements.

The school prioritises equal and fair access to the wider curriculum. Leaders are adamant that pupils take part, no matter what their individual circumstances. During their time at school, pupils take part in 'extra-special experiences', such as visiting the beach and seeing a live performance. As a result, pupils are confident and happy. The curriculum is ambitious and enables pupils to do well. All subjects reflect the school's vision in enabling pupils to develop 'togetherness' through working, growing and ultimately flourishing together. However, opportunities for spiritual development are not intrinsic to the school curriculum. Suitable adaptations are made to the curriculum for pupils with SEND. Pupils and their families are known well. Leaders and staff go above and beyond to support them. Parents are extremely positive about the care for them and their children. Staff are always there for them, living out the vision through both the happy and difficult times. This is a strength of the school, making it a truly special community. Many lives have been transformed as a result. Pupils are happy and feel safe because they know that there is always someone by their side who cares.

Collective worship reflects the school's vision as a special time of togetherness. Prayer, reflection and worship through singing are beginning to contribute to pupils' spiritual development. Pupil participation through talk partners enables pupils to relate to Bible stories and the life of Jesus. They can then make links to their own behaviours. Parents report seeing the impact of worship at home, particularly through the positive affirmations pupils receive in celebration worship. The school has benefited from the Diocesan collective worship materials upon which worship planning is centred. Pupils' experience of worship is enhanced through clergy leading weekly. Worship is enjoyed as a time to come together and talk about God. Invitational prayer is appreciated by pupils as they feel calm and 'know that God is with you'. There are regular opportunities throughout the year to worship at the church including during Anglican festivals such as Easter and Christmas. Consequently, pupils are experiencing a diverse range of worship styles.

Pupils' understanding of ethical responsibility is being developed through charitable events such as red nose day and donating food to the local foodbank. Pupils enjoy doing helpful things for others because it makes them feel good. Some pupils have been involved in litter picking, in order to care for God's world. Pupils visit the local community gardens to learn about limiting carbon footprint. This enables them to see the difference that can be made. However, they do not have a sufficiently developed understanding of justice which might empower them to become agents of change.



Pupils enjoy RE and are enthusiastic about their learning. A well thought-out curriculum enables pupils to gain an understanding of major world faiths. Teachers check how well pupils are doing through effective questioning. Adaptations are made to the curriculum to enrich learning about the faith and culture of pupils in the school. This leads to a highly inclusive culture where difference and diversity are respected and embraced. RE provides a safe space for all pupils to share their religious beliefs. Pupils from different world faiths, enrich lessons by confidently sharing their experiences. This brings religion and religious experience to life. This is a strength of RE at Brampton Abbots. In addition to their RE lessons, pupils in Years 5 and 6 follow the 'Walk Through the Bible' programme. This brings the Bible to life through interactive, fun sessions. As a result, pupils have a secure knowledge and understanding of Bible stories. Through RE, pupils learn, grow and flourish together. The subject has high importance, with a detailed annual report being prepared and shared with governors. However, there is not a regular monitoring and evaluation cycle of RE to ensure that improvements are ongoing.

Mental health and wellbeing is a top priority. There are two fully trained mental health leads in school. Pupils provide support networks, such as the buddy system. Older pupils speak with great pride of their various roles and responsibilities. There is a real sense of family, where everyone plays a part in enabling each other to 'work, grow and flourish'. This has a considerable impact on wellbeing. Staff wellbeing is paramount, and leaders are mindful of workload. Staff are appreciative that 'leaders believe in them' and 'care for them'. As a result, staffing is stable. Staff work 'together' as a close-knit team. They grow in their roles through their support for one another as well as through the training opportunities they are given. As a direct result of living out the vision, staff are dedicated to doing whatever it takes to improve the lives of the pupils in their care.

Information

Address	Brampton Road, Ross-on-Wye, Herefordshire, HR9 7FX		
Date	25 September 2024	URN	116867
Type of school	VA	No. of pupils	113
Diocese	Hereford		
MAT/Federation	Oak Meadow Federation		
Headteacher	Dan Brearey		
Chair of Governors	Paul Mason		
Inspector	Kerry Geddis		