

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Shalfleet Church of England Primary School	
Address	Station Road, Ningwood, PO30 4NN
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
<p style="text-align: center;">Achieving Together for a Brighter Future</p> <p>The purpose of the Federation is to educate children in an atmosphere of Christian love where all achieve the very best they can, now and throughout their lives. Our vision is for high standards and good behaviour within a culture of mutual respect by nurturing kindness, tolerance and acceptance of diversity. Christian values of respect, determination and relationships.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christian love is woven throughout Shalfleet like a golden thread. Dedicated leaders ensure that pupils and adults flourish within an environment that is built on respect, determination, and strong relationships. Whilst values are deeply embedded, the Christian vision is not securely articulated by all members of the school community. • Pupils aspire to be the best that they can be. Vulnerable pupils are exceptionally well supported and nurtured within a deeply loving culture. A clearly defined and understood interpretation of spirituality ensures that everyone grows spiritually. • School leaders develop bespoke initiatives to enhance pupils' character and moral development. Pupils flourish by engaging in a range of social action projects and are advocates for change within their communities and beyond the island. • The Christian vision and values are reflected in acts of worship that strengthen the spiritual growth of those present. Pupils are engaged in elements of planning and evaluating collective worship. However, there are missed opportunities for pupils to lead aspects within whole school collective worship. • Pupils enjoy religious education (RE) lessons. The subject is well-led and monitored robustly. Consequently, RE enables pupils to reflect on their own ideas and beliefs, by drawing on a good understanding of Christian values.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop the Christian vision so that it, rather than the values are shaping the strategic direction, school policies and action plans. • Enable more pupils to lead elements of whole school worship, so that pupils better appreciate a variety of collective worship styles.



Inspection findings

Committed leaders live out the vision by striving for everyone at Shalfleet to have the best life chances. Leaders at all levels ensure that a vision rooted in Christian love and supported by inclusive values is the driving force that enables all to flourish. The vision unifies a happy staff team. Respect, determination, and relationships are woven throughout every policy and procedure, which are shared across the federation. Whilst members of the school articulate the values exceptionally well, they do not have such a robust understanding of the existing vision. Federation governors effectively hold senior leaders to account and know the school exceptionally well. Subsequently, leaders create a loving environment in which pupils can achieve their full potential. Robust monitoring of the school as a Church school ensures that pupils flourish. Leaders are in process of reviewing the existing Christian vision. Senior leaders ensure the unique needs of everyone are well met. By expanding the age range of the preschool, leaders immerse younger children in Christian love. This is just one example of the school's leadership making decisions that are driven by the Christian vision.

Pupils flourish academically because of the care and individual attention the staff provides. Staff are resolved to the commitment for every pupil to flourish socially, emotionally, and academically. The whole school community shares this sense of determination. As one pupil said, 'Our mistakes are expected, inspected, and respected'. This mantra reflects the vision exceptionally well. The wider curriculum is aspirational and is developed to enhance the context of the school, whilst simultaneously providing for a brighter future for all. Leaders plan for cultural experiences beyond the island and gently encourage reluctant pupils to join in educational visits to the mainland. This nurturing culture supports flourishing for all.

A shared understanding of spirituality is seamlessly woven across many aspects of the school. Pupils, as well as staff, articulate this approach and note the impact it has on their spiritual growth and journey. As a result, both planned and spontaneous opportunities for pupils' spiritual growth are harnessed.

Shalfleet is a fully inclusive and profoundly nurturing school. Dedicated and well-trained staff guarantee no one is left behind. Staff have a forensic understanding of each pupil. Provision for wellbeing and mental health are exceptionally strong. This has a lasting impact on people across the school community. Adults flourish because the vision unites them in a shared purpose. Parents rightly praise leaders for the inclusivity of Shalfleet. One parent said, 'We are cared for as much as the children are'. All are respected with dignity as uniquely created by an all-loving God. Most policies and procedures reflect this. The school's approach to relationships and sex education ensures that pupils make healthy relationships and demonstrate respect and dignity for all. Shalfleet rightly recognises itself as one large inclusive family. Senior leaders effectively model positive relationships with everyone.

Raising pupils' aspirations is a priority for leaders. Staff seize every opportunity to plan exciting, thought-provoking, and challenging experiences for pupils within their island communities and on the mainland. Subsequently, pupils are well prepared for the next stage in their education. Leaders are conscious of the community. A detailed calendar of cultural experiences enhances pupils' understanding of their place in modern Britain. Visitors inspire pupils, as they share their professional lives. Leaders enable pupils to raise aspirations for



their learning journey and spiritual development. Equally, care is given to empower staff through well-matched training and career progression opportunities.

A respectful approach to global links is being pioneered in partnership with the local church community. This supports pupils' understanding of Christianity as a worldwide faith by making links to a school in Ghana. Communication between the pupils of Yelwoko School and Shalfleet is celebrated, and pupils learn first-hand what life is like for others around the world. Clergy and staff ensure that this project is not motivated by pity but focuses on celebrating similarities and differences between the communities.

A culture of mutual respect through nurturing kindness, tolerance, and acceptance of diversity is strong. Consequently, pupils get along well together. Social action projects ensure that all pupils have regular experiences of being advocates for change, locally, nationally, and globally. Shared projects, visits, and learning across corresponding classes in the federation support this. Careful consideration is placed on charitable organisations that are learned about and supported. Pupils are active advocates for change on the island and are rightly proud of their achievements in tackling deprivation and the exploitation of the natural world. Pupils are empowered to respectfully challenge injustice.

Collective worship is constructed by leaders to explore the Christian vision and associated values. Pupils and adults enjoy worship. The strong sense of family is enhanced as each class brings their cross and candle to the hall for worship. Respect, determination, and relationships are thoroughly explored and skillfully woven throughout acts of worship. Whole school and class-based worship offer a range of experiences that explore Bible stories in age-appropriate ways. Consequently, pupils have a secure understanding of the teachings of Jesus, the Christian belief in the Trinity, and major festivals celebrated in the church. Worship is fully inclusive. Younger siblings enjoy joining worship weekly as a community experience. Moments of prayer and reflection throughout the day are invitational. Pupils confidentially lead spontaneous prayer. Partnerships with the local church community are strong and long-lasting. Clergy-led worship is enjoyed by pupils. Worship richly supports the spiritual development of pupils and adults. Whilst active in evaluating and making suggestions for worship, there are some missed opportunities for pupils to lead elements of whole school worship.

Pupils enjoy RE lessons. The RE curriculum weaves together the locally agreed syllabus with additional high quality learning resources. The vision and associated values are expressed throughout the curriculum. The subject holds a prioritised position in the timetable and is well led across the federation. Training from the diocese supports staff, ensuring that it is an impactful subject. RE lessons provide a safe space for pupils to discuss Christianity and spiritual and philosophical ideas. Consequently, pupils have a significant grasp of Christianity. They demonstrate this in conversations and written work. However, learning about different religions and worldviews is not always comparable.



Information			
School	Shalfleet Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	9 November 2022
URN	118188	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Portsmouth; Winchester	Pupils on roll	190
Headteacher	Elizabeth Grainger		
Chair of Governors	Carla Bradshaw		
Inspector	Toby Long	No.	896