

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Bloxham Church of England Primary School

Vision

‘Encourage one another and build each other up.’ Thessalonians 5:11

Our Christian vision is that we make a difference to ourselves and those around us by showing kindness, care and compassion. This is supported by our motto, Be - Build - Become encapsulating our belief that our pupils are valued for who they are and that through our actions we support, encourage and nurture them to become who they want to be.

Bloxham 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

- A deeply embedded vision empowers leaders to make strong strategic decisions that reflect the best interests of the school community. Inspired by the vision focused plans drive continuous improvement, enabling pupils and adults to flourish together through reflection and development.
- 1. Carefully chosen Christian values enable leaders to create a highly effective culture of nurture, care and compassion. This ensures positive, meaningful relationships where differences are recognised and celebrated. As a result, pupils, including those who are vulnerable or who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), are thriving.
- Daily collective worship is a valued and treasured part of school life. Through Bible teachings, prayer, and reflection, pupils and adults are offered meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth. Uplifting and engaging singing further enriches individual spiritual experiences.
- Strong and purposeful partnerships with the church, diocese, and local authority provide valuable support and high-quality professional development. These collaborative relationships foster a culture of mutual encouragement among staff, enabling them to thrive professionally. Consequently, pupils benefit from high standards of practice and a positive learning environment.
- Leaders successfully ensure that pupils are fully included in learning and have access to many extra-curricular experiences. A diverse network of local schools offers a variety of activities and expertise that enrich and extend the curriculum.

Development Points

- Robustly monitor and evaluate the implementation and impact on learning of the revised religious education (RE) Scheme. This is so pupils have a deeper knowledge of Christianity and other world views.
- Develop a whole school approach to spirituality. This is to enrich and deepen personal spiritual experiences for pupils and adults.
- Expand opportunities for pupils to engage in meaningful action. This is to help them to recognise the impact they can have and further develop a sense of responsibility.



Inspection Findings

IQ1: Vision and Leadership

Leaders have created a Christian vision that encourages pupils and adults to be who they want to be. Carefully chosen values that include inclusivity, caring, and honesty support the vision and underpin daily life. The community works well together, putting pupils first. This shared commitment ensures pupil's needs are met allowing them to flourish socially and emotionally. Governors are committed to the school's success. They regularly evaluate the impact of the vision ensuring it remains relevant for Bloxham school. Development planning is forward-looking, supporting the school's ongoing journey of self-improvement. Strong partnerships with the diocese and local authority provide stability and support, helping school leaders navigate challenges with resilience. Strategic curriculum and financial decisions including staffing and provision for SEND are thoughtful and timely. As a result, pupils benefit from a nurturing and ambitious learning environment in which they grow and flourish academically.

IQ2: Vision and Curriculum

The Christian vision and values, expertly woven through learning experiences enable pupils to grow in resilience and confidence. Leader's decisions promote inclusivity ensuring pupils can participate in extra-curricular opportunities without being disadvantaged by their background. Adults know the pupils well and work tirelessly to respond to their needs. The Bloxham basics and the 'I do, we do, you do' model supports personalised learning. Discreet interventions in class foster pupil self-worth enabling individuals to showcase their work in ways that suit their abilities. These approaches help pupils including those who may be disadvantaged or vulnerable and/or with SEND to thrive. Positive relationships with local schools and clubs offer experiences like outdoor learning, quadbikes, art and Pokémon club. These enrich the curriculum providing opportunities to develop new skills and contributing to individual growth. Pupils celebrate success through the Keeping Bloxham Values certificates, feeling proud and motivated. Reflection spaces around the school are well used and offer calm and stillness, supporting emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Pupils confidently describe wow moments with examples such as conquering fears on residential or creating art at Kingham Lodge. However, without a consistent school-wide approach to spirituality, opportunities to deepen personal reflection and spiritual growth remain underdeveloped.

IQ3: Worship and Spirituality

A range of worship styles provide meaningful opportunities for spiritual development. Pupils engage respectfully and joyfully, especially during singing and prayer. Worship is Anglican in nature and includes cherished time for reflection and praise. Adaptations ensure pupils can participate fully and feel included saying worship helps them talk with God and feel listened to. Visitors from local churches enrich pupils' understanding of the Bible and the teachings of Jesus. This is evident as pupils confidently engage in thoughtful discussions. They demonstrate a clear grasp of meanings in texts including Joseph's Dreams and Noah's Ark. Christian festivals including Christmas and Easter unite families and deepen pupils' understanding of the church calendar. Pupils know the Lord's Prayer and the Bloxham school prayer. These help them to connect with God in their own way. Resources used in worship prepare pupils for life in a diverse world, offering clear, values-driven messages rooted in Christian teaching. Pupils listen attentively, reflect thoughtfully, and live out these messages. Consequently, worship has a positive impact on the personal and spiritual development of adults and pupils.

IQ4: Church School Ethos and Culture

Inspired by the vision of support, nurture and encouragement leaders prioritise wellbeing. A strong culture of compassion supports pupils and families. Staff know individuals well and respond to their challenges with care to ensure needs are met. Pupils behave respectfully and show good manners to others, opening doors and saying thank you. Reflection areas like the Robin nurture room offer space to share worries. A restorative behaviour policy actively promotes and fosters a culture of forgiveness and kindness. Pupils value 'mend-it' meetings, which help restore relationships and solve problems. These practices build pupil confidence and increase emotional flourishing. The school's ethos of encouragement extends to adults, where everyone is part of a team that grows together. Staff receive high-quality professional development and mentoring. Early career



teachers grow into leaders with expert support. Dedicated wellbeing days and regular check-ins, help staff to feel valued, emotionally supported, and mentally healthy. As a result, they are better equipped to create a positive, nurturing environment in which pupils can also thrive.

IQ5: Justice and Responsibility

Pupils learn and develop their understanding of justice through a range of curriculum subjects and British values. These topics including Black Lives Matter deepen their understanding of injustice. Pupils recognise differences and value diversity saying although we are different, we are all special. They are encouraged and empowered to speak out against bullying. Shaped by the vision, leadership opportunities including the pupil parliament and sports representation build up pupil's independence and organisational skills. Pupils feel trusted and take these responsibilities seriously. Roles like lunchbox trolley monitors show how small actions matter. Bloxham ICATCH values guide behaviour and help pupils to consider others. They have a clear understanding of how their actions and fund-raising help others access food, shelter and education. This enables them to grow in empathy. Staff encourage open discussions about global issues such as climate change and pollution. This supports pupils to recognise their role in caring for the world. They take part in local litter picks and understand that recycling supports the planet. However, opportunities to demonstrate that they can take responsibility and make a positive impact beyond their local area are limited.

IQ6: Religious Education (RE)

Driven by the vision RE is a highly regarded subject and a priority for curriculum development and improvement. A newly appointed RE leader brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role. As a result of effective monitoring and evaluation leaders have introduced a new scheme of work. This is in its early stages of implementation and is evolving. There have been few opportunities to evaluate how the revised scheme positively impacts on learning. Pupils enjoy RE and say it helps them to understand others, their beliefs and how they behave. The curriculum supports a balance of Christianity, world religions and worldviews with a clear progression to build on previous knowledge. RE days and regular reviews help pupils to recall prior learning. Word banks, topic organisers and scaffolding activities enable pupils to deepen their understanding. They know more about Christianity and Hinduism than other world religions and confidently talk about Christian beliefs and practices. Early years pupils learn about family celebrations and are beginning to recognise similarities and differences. The Diocese supports staff with resources and high-quality training. Consequently, they are well prepared and equipped to develop pupils' learning through curiosity, respect and understanding.

Information

Address	Tadmarton Road, Bloxham, Banbury, Oxfordshire, OX15 4HP		
Date	23 September 2025	URN	123098
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	328
Diocese	Oxford		
Headteacher	Sarah Marshall		
Chair of Governors	Kevin Moyes		
Inspector	Paula Shaw		