



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Mursley Church of England School	
Address	Main Street, Mursley, Milton Keynes, MK17 0RT
School vision	
<p>'Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in Heaven'. Matthew 5:16.</p> <p>With honesty, respect, forgiveness and love, we persevere, succeed and shine.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Christian vision of Mursley Church of England School is deeply embedded. Ambitious leaders model opportunities to shine with great enthusiasm. This ensures that the vision is a living reality in the school community. • Shaped by the vision, the curriculum is effectively designed to nurture and support each pupil. A love of learning is enriched by inspiring visits and times of reflection. As a result, pupils flourish. • Collective worship unites the school community in celebrating key Christian values. Invitational prayer and moments of reflection strengthens spiritual growth for pupils and adults. • Building supportive relationships is a strength of the school. Pupils live out values such as honesty and respect, empowering them to live well together. Leaders prioritise the importance of good mental health, ensuring that staff feel valued. • The religious education (RE) curriculum is well-balanced and challenging. Leaders ensure that rich vocabulary is embedded that supports a deep knowledge of diverse beliefs and views. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embed a clear understanding of spirituality within the school curriculum. This is so that pupils have increasingly deeper opportunities to explore their own spiritual growth. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>The Christian vision to 'let your light shine' is deeply embedded at Mursley school. It is rooted in biblical text and supported with key values including respect and love. A special 'shine day' at the start of the year reinforces the importance of the Christian vision and its associated values. As a result, exemplary behaviour is learnt and lived out. Highly skilled leaders and adults create a warm and nurturing culture. They pride themselves in understanding the personality and needs of each pupil and celebrate moments when they shine. The wellbeing and promotion of good mental health are strengths of the school. Parents rightly praise the school for its strong communication that builds a harmonious community. A team of dedicated governors monitor and evaluate the impact of the vision. They support leaders in identifying improvement and growth. In partnership with the Three Schools Federation, staff receive training to further their skills and knowledge. This supports</p>	

consistency when pupils transition to junior schools.

Inspired by the vision, leaders have developed a curriculum that is tailored to meet the needs of its pupils. An initial programme of nurture ensures that they settle quickly into the school. Lessons develop enquiry and curiosity as they deepen their knowledge of subjects. Ambitious approaches to teaching and learning empower pupils to grow as learners. For example, using 'helicopter stories' strengthens confidence in their ability. Repeating these stories at home helps to reinforce their skills. Opportunities to shine are developed through acting and role play. Guided by the vision, support is well-established for pupils considered to be vulnerable. Staff pride themselves on an inclusive approach so that needs are met. Inspiring trips develop pupils' imagination. For example, they enthusiastically share an understanding of the compassion of Florence Nightingale after a visit to a ballet. Whilst times of reflection are explored in lessons, a clear understanding of spirituality is not embedded. This limits the depth of their spiritual growth. Governors take time to monitor the curriculum and work with leaders to ensure the vision-led curriculum is effective. This is reflected in the high standards achieved across the school.

Collective worship is treasured by pupils and adults as a special part of the day. A rich variety of Bible stories and music strongly promotes spiritual flourishing. Effective links with the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education enriches this provision. Careful planning by leaders ensures that worship builds the school community in reinforcing key Christian values. For example, visits from the local clergy initiate open discussions about forgiveness. This, and other experiences, highlight the confidence pupils show in describing how they live out their school values. Visits to local churches provide moments of stillness and calm through prayer. Pupils share that a feeling of love in church is a 'candle moment' as they express a spiritual experience. These times also support spiritual growth for adults. Teachers are confident in facilitating worship as they involve pupils in leadership roles. Class worship provides opportunities for deep reflection. Thoughts and actions are recorded in journals so that the impact of worship is shared and reviewed. Governors evaluate the effectiveness of worship and work with leaders to build future inspiring experiences.

Building supportive relationships is a strength of the school. This creates a cohesive community where pupils and adults are treated well. Pupils who have special needs and/or disabilities (SEND) receive support from well-trained staff. Innovative therapies using practical tasks and music, illustrate the love that is at the heart of the school's vision. Leaders ensure that funding is prioritised to develop this aspect of the school's inclusive culture. Parents rightly praise staff for the care shown so that pupils thrive despite the difficulties they face. Open discussions about honesty and forgiveness equip them with valuable skills. They work and play together with respect and care. The sustained focus on staff needs leads to effective wellbeing at all levels. Leaders, including governors, promote good mental health and show compassion and care. This enables adults to flourish and model strong approaches in nurturing pupils. Motivated by finding opportunities to shine, staff are encouraged to share good practice with other schools. This demonstrates a far-reaching commitment to promote the school's Christian vision so that it impacts positively on pupils within, and beyond Mursley.

The encouragement of responsibility and leadership for pupils ensures clear responses to injustice. A young leaders' team motivates pupils to be agents of change in their local and national community. They initiate whole school activities such as support for a local foodbank and appeals for those considered to be vulnerable. Adults use frequent opportunities to raise global issues. For example, sharing the difficulties people face in other countries challenges pupils' thinking and motivates them to show compassion to others. They discuss ways to support families considered to be vulnerable, as well as appreciating their own circumstances. The provision of inspiring trips leads to a deep understanding of social action. A war museum visit leads them to send some of their own clothes to families recently affected by conflict. Such examples demonstrate the impact the Christian vision

has in growing caring and determined pupils.

A creatively designed curriculum for RE has been crafted by skilled leaders. Collaboration within the federation enriches this work. Strong start points begin in Reception, where RE is developed alongside an understanding of the world. For example, links are made between Hindu patterns and the beauty of nature. A strong knowledge of Bible stories such as Jesus feeding 5,000 people sparks discussions about food and poverty. Classrooms contain rich religious vocabulary which enhances pupils' confidence in using this language. A visit to a Jewish Synagogue widens a knowledge of festivals and sacred texts. Lessons that begin with 'big questions' inspire them to investigate and reflect on their own beliefs. Adults carefully record responses in floor books. This provides a clear indication of how pupils thrive in these lessons. Teachers carefully identify any gaps in pupil's knowledge and adapt the curriculum to enhance their understanding. Leaders prioritise time for staff to monitor and review their lessons. This ensures that learning reinforces the school's vision and values, making RE a cohesive part of the school curriculum.

The inspection findings indicate that Mursley Church of England School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	20 June 2024	URN	110444
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	44
Diocese	Oxford		
MAT/Federation	The Three Schools Federation		
Executive Headteacher	David May		
Chair	Alison Terry		
Inspector	Keith Farquhar	No.	2143