

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

South Cave Church of England Primary School	
Address	Church Street, South Cave, Brough, HU15 2EP
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>We want every member of our school family to be the best person that they can possibly be. To recognise, develop and appreciate their gifts so that they may 'let their light shine'. (Matthew 5:16)</p> <p>We strive to create well-rounded individuals who display humility and who understand that we are all valued equally as a unique creation with a responsibility to contribute to the wider world in all its diversity.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aspirational Christian vision drives a whole school culture of high hopes and expectations for all pupils across the curriculum. As a result, pupils are flourishing. Opportunities for spiritual development are less developed • The commitment of the senior leadership team and governors to enable all to 'Let their light shine' by providing individualised support and nurture is exemplary. For many children and their families, the love, care and education they receive has been life changing. • Courageous advocacy is a strength of the school. Pupils care deeply about the community and their world and act confidently to be agents for positive change. • Collective worship, springing from the Christian vision, is valued, biblical and affirming. It influences the lives of both pupils and staff, enabling them to thrive. Worship is enriched by significant opportunities for leadership by the older pupils. Not all pupils have the opportunity to independently plan, lead or evaluate collective worship. • Pupils enjoy religious education (RE) and talk positively about the impact it has on their lives. However, monitoring systems are in their infancy.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a shared language of spirituality which can be readily expressed. This is so that spiritual growth can be planned for in all aspects of school life. • Enable pupils to proactively plan, lead and evaluate collective worship in order to further improve practice. • Establish systems in RE to effectively inform continuity and progression so all pupils flourish.

Inspection findings

South Cave is a deeply caring and welcoming community that considers the needs of all its pupils and adults. The clear Christian vision and values are central to this.

School leaders have worked tirelessly to create an enriching and nurturing learning environment where pupils thrive irrespective of their starting point. Beautiful biblically inspired artwork, created by pupils, frame the walls, and calm, peaceful nooks encourage pupils to read, reflect and pray. Dignity and respect are hallmarks of this school where all are supported to 'let their light shine.' The school's Christian vision is well known and articulated by all. It is clearly understood by leaders who ensure it impacts all decisions made. Governors demonstrate with practical illustration how the vision drives strategic decisions and has impact throughout the curriculum.

Wellbeing is a priority and an integral part of the school. This is because it is firmly believed that if adults can 'let their light shine' then pupils will also. Staff and parents talk openly about the caring and nurturing nature of the school. This enables pupils and adults to feel valued, no matter how long they have been part of the community. Parents appreciate how the school has 'gone out of their way' to ensure that their child is settled. Leaders have introduced a bespoke curriculum inspired by the vision. Carefully chosen questions encourage pupils to develop curiosity and gain an understanding of the wider world. These questions also develop a sense of awe and wonder as pupils think globally and beyond themselves. This ensures that they have opportunities to grow spiritually. However, a school wide definition of spirituality is not readily understood and articulated by all.

Pupils behave and treat each other well. This is because the vision and values support them in reflecting on their behaviour and their interactions with each other. They care for each other, seeking ways in which they can help one another whilst recognising everyone has different strengths. This is evident in the nomination by pupils for the weekly 'Shine' award which recognises when one of their peers excels in living out the vision.

Collective worship is an important time of the day and pupils are enthusiastic about it. Pupils understand it as a central time to gather and worship together. It expresses the vision by ensuring it is exciting, engaging and inclusive, exploring Christian teachings and how they can be lived. One example is a lively dramatic retelling of the story of the 'Good Samaritan', where pupils shared their insights. They understand and explain how such stories embody the values of trust, thankfulness and perseverance. Special services such as Harvest and Christmas are highly valued and enjoyed by the community. Collective worship provides opportunities to reflect on the values through stillness and prayer, giving everyone time to review how they can 'let their light shine'. The pupils who make up the collective worship squad are supported by staff to lead but do not independently plan, deliver and evaluate worship.

Pupils talk about how worship makes them 'think about those in need.' There are numerous opportunities for pupils to learn about social justice and inequality around the world. They make clear links between the values of respect and compassion to a wide variety of topics. Examples include the plight of the Ukrainian families, the Windrush generation, and United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. One pupil explained that "sharing what we have with others is doing God's job on earth". Pupils' concern for social justice is shown in their advocacy for the local environment. Working with the Slow the Flow organisation has led to planting 500 bushes and trees to prevent flooding in the village. The Archbishops' Young Leaders Award undertaken by Year 3 and Year 4 has developed links with a local residential home and the nearby hospice. Pupils visit and talk to residents, enabling the lights



of others to shine.

The Christian vision drives the pastoral care within school, as a result staff morale is high, and pupils enjoy coming to school. Pupils who found learning and socialising difficult have felt a warm welcome at South Cave. All staff see their role as holistic, echoing the vision of valuing everyone. Pupils take looking after themselves and others seriously. Peer mediators see it as their role to nurture the younger children as well as organising activities in school with the sports leaders. This leads to a school where all flourish as they are treated with dignity and respect.

Pupils enjoy RE lessons. They speak highly of the subject and understand its importance. Leaders have adopted a carefully planned and exciting curriculum. RE is led and managed well. Monitoring and evaluation systems have been introduced but are not fully embedded. Lessons provide pupils with a safe space to discuss and debate. They learn about diversity within and across religions, whilst considering key religious concepts from multiple perspectives. Pupils explore big questions and talk articulately, making meaningful links about their learning. For example, one pupil comparing an apple seed in an RE lesson to the Holy Spirit, because seeds bring life. Pupils highlight how RE helps them to think about people from a variety of cultures and traditions. Their study of a range of faiths is enabling them to consider divergence of religious thought. As a result, pupils articulate their increasing understanding, acceptance, and respect for others.

The confident and curious pupils of South Cave are a testament to the way in which the adults inspire and nurture them to 'let their light shine' and flourish.

Information			
School	South Cave Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	7 March 2023
URN	118003	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	York	Pupils on roll	198
Headteacher	Mrs Julie Newby		
Chair of Governors	Mrs Alison Thornham		
Inspector	Elaine Bowers	No.	960