



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Kilby St Mary’s Church of England Primary School	
Address	Main Street, Kilby, Wigston, Leicester LE18 3TD

School vision

‘Together, we are learning to live life in all its fullness ’ John 10:10

At Kilby St Mary’s we care for all God’s children, unconditionally. The image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd (John 10:11) resonates with our school community because all members of our school family are valued and respected. Each child is individually known, enabling us to ensure that every child achieves their very best.

We are enthusiastic about doing all that we can to equip children with life chances and choices which will lead to positive differences in their lives. Our Christian values of friendship, forgiveness, honesty, respect, hope and perseverance are at the heart of all we do whilst simultaneously developing a culture of inclusivity and empowerment that will raise aspirations, achievements and excellence.

School strengths

- The leadership, including the governors, ensures the Christian vision is lived out within the school. Each person in the school is treasured as a unique individual.
- The culture of serving others is deeply embedded across the school. Inspired by the vision, of Jesus as the Shepherd, pupils seek opportunities to serve both within and outside of the school.
- The RE curriculum enables pupils to grow a deep understanding and respect of Christianity and a range of faiths.
- Collective worship is inspirational and shaped by the school’s vision, to live life in all its fullness. Pupils and members of the school community willingly engage with collective worship in their own way. This engagement ensures pupils live out the values of the school.
- The living experience of the Christian vision is demonstrated by strong partnerships with parents, governors and the Diocese. This ensures all pupils develop into well-rounded individuals.

Areas for development

- Enhance the pupils’ understanding of spirituality, through identifying opportunities across the whole curriculum to develop pupils’ spiritual growth.
- Extend pupils’ understanding of Christianity as a worldwide faith by developing curriculum opportunities to experience diversity within the Christian faith.

Inspection findings

There is a real sense of community and love at Kilby St Mary's, which is felt strongly across all aspects of school life. Members of the school community describe themselves as jigsaw pieces which are held together by love and compassion. Relationships are built on the school's well-established Christian vision and values which have led to excellent behaviour and attitudes throughout the school.

The Christian vision has been carefully thought through by leaders and governors and underpins the nurturing ethos within the school. Pupils and staff are inspired by the biblical image of Jesus as the Good Shepherd. They are passionate about being part of the flock and the cohesion this brings to the school. Each member of the flock is valued and celebrated for being a unique individual within Kilby St Mary's. The Christian values are modelled by staff and positively reinforced through daily praise and weekly value certificates. Pupils have a strong understanding of the school's vision and values. They clearly articulate and explain how they can live life in all its fullness. Spirituality is currently not fully developed enough across the curriculum. School leaders have a good understanding of spirituality across the curriculum, but pupils struggle to articulate this.

Enabling good mental health and wellbeing is central to the school's work. Staff, pupils, parents and governors all express how much support they get from the school. One governor describes Kilby St Mary's, as 'the school that gives you a hug when you walk in'. Governors have introduced 'wellbeing days' for all the staff in school, to ensure that they can live life in all its fullness. Both the Governors and the Diocese provide regular bespoke support for the leaders at the school. The school runs a 'Me in Mind' programme for pupils who have been struggling with anxiety, poor mental health or other concerns at home. This intervention is linked to the school vision and merges physical activity with opportunities to discuss the five ways to wellbeing. Pupils were able to openly discuss how keeping active, improves their wellbeing. Parents rightly express how Kilby St Mary's prepares their children for secondary school. One parent said, 'this school has laid the foundations of community, friendship and kindness which has enabled my child to be successful'.

Collective worship is highly inclusive and engaging. Pupils of all ages, volunteer to participate throughout all elements of this time of worship. The song of the month is quickly learnt, and pupils enjoy singing the school hymn. Pupils are invited to personally reflect and respond to collective worship. These reflections are kept and recorded in class 'floor books'. Pupils are given the opportunity and choice to pray. Prayer is clearly part of the embedded spiritual culture at Kilby St Mary's. Prayer stations have been developed in each classroom and are utilised during collective worship. Pupils confidently talk about how the prayer stations link back to the school values. School leaders have introduced a new structure to collective worship, which has increased staff confidence to lead such times. Staff now have a good understanding of how to link scripture to the main message within worship. The school has correctly identified that pupils are ready to be more involved in the planning and leading of class-based collective worship.

Through the curriculum and the study of current world events, pupils have opportunities to live out the vision by serving others. Within school, pupils can be elected to the school council or by becoming ambassadors in different areas such as wellbeing and sport. The school council is focused on making Kilby St Mary's a greener school and have recently received a 'Green Flag Eco Award' for their work. One member of the school council stated that it is important to ensure that children in the future can live life in all its fullness by protecting our planet now. The pupils are proactive agents of change both within and outside of the school. Pupils are encouraged to think about the plight of others in the world, such as those suffering from leprosy and through the annual Christmas shoebox appeal. Pupils compassionately describe how these shoeboxes full of gifts, benefit less fortunate children across Europe. The parent support group, 'Friends of Kilby' work closely with the school to

raise money to improve the school and also to subsidise school visits. The school has recently celebrated its 150th anniversary of serving the children of Kilby and the surrounding areas. The community of Kilby St Mary's serve each other, just as a shepherd serves its flock.

Leaders ensure that religious education (RE) curriculum is effective and have identified clear actions to foster further development. Pupils are enthusiastic about their experiences in RE and have a good knowledge of a wide range of Bible stories. Teachers have responded well to the challenge of mixed year groups by creating practical and thought provoking RE lessons. Pupils explain why it is important to learn about a range of religions. Year 1 and 2 pupils speak excitedly about a recent visit to the local synagogue. This visit has inspired pupils to practically engage in the different elements of Judaism. Pupils can confidently talk about the Torah and its purpose within the Jewish faith. RE vocabulary is revisited across all age groups, enabling pupils to confidently speak about a range of faiths. The school is keen to develop more opportunities for pupils to visit different places of worship to enhance pupils' awareness of a range of faiths.

The RE lead works closely with the link governor to monitor the quality of teaching and learning within RE. Teachers are keen to learn from each other and share good practice. Work in books shows that pupils actively engage in RE across all age groups. New resources purchased by the school have ensured that staff feel confident to deliver the RE curriculum. Lessons are well-planned allowing pupils of all abilities to make good progress in RE.

These inspection findings indicate that Kilby St Mary's Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
School	Kilby St Mary's Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	12 June 2024
URN	120195	VC/VA/Academy	VA
Diocese/District	Leicestershire	Pupils on roll	84
MAT/Federation	N/A		
Headteacher	Rebecca Hartsthorne		
Chair of Governors/ Trust Board	Judith Spence		
Inspector	Sandra Stapleton	No.	C.23/24