

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Stoke St Gregory Church of England Primary School

Vision

Let your light shine. (Matthew 5:16)

Stoke St Gregory 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

- Driven by their Christian vision, the school has built and nurtured relationships and wider partnerships which are central to its success as a Church school. An exciting culture of improvement and support is evident with the collaboration of the village, local church and the multi-academy trust (MAT).
- The revitalised vision ignites a shared commitment to each other, enabling pupils and staff to flourish as beacons of light.
- School leaders work collaboratively with staff, supported by the MAT and guided by the school vision. As a result, pupils are inspired to 'let their light shine' so they are well prepared for their next steps in life and learning.
- The embedding of the school's values across the curriculum nourishes pupils so they know how they can bring 'LIGHT' to others.

Development Points

- Strengthen the religious education (RE) curriculum to include emphasis on the breadth of faith, belief and individual views. This is so that pupils deepen their understanding and knowledge of the diversity and richness within religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Embed the school's understanding and shared language of spirituality through collective worship and the school curriculum. This is to encourage and strengthen the spiritual development of adults and pupils.
- Enhance pupils' understanding of how to recognise and respond to injustice. This is so that they are empowered through the Christian vision to take action and to enrich the lives of others.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Inspired by the school's renewed vision, Stoke St Gregory Church of England Primary School gives pupils and adults the confidence to shine brightly. Consequently, they are enabled to live out the vision through the associated values of love, imagination, gratitude, hope and togetherness (LIGHT). Collaborative and positive connections with the local village and church are mutually beneficial. As a result, the school is a highly regarded part of the local community. Leaders work effectively with the diocese and the MAT, including engaging with training. These strong partnerships encourage and sustain leaders, including in challenging times. The governance structure enables local governors to particularly focus on monitoring and evaluation of the school vision, partnerships and ethos. Evaluation impacts positively on school decisions and provides rigour and challenge for leaders. Pupils know they are valued through the school's celebration of their achievements and regular communications with parents. The Christian vision creates a caring culture. Therefore, leaders are inspired to actively serve the pupils, families and the wider community with energy and passion. They tirelessly work to ensure the language of the vision is known and understood. Through this, pupils understand that there is a 'light' in everyone. They aspire to share their sparkle so others may flourish together.

Vision and Curriculum

Through leaders' careful planning, Christian values are meaningfully woven through the curriculum. This provides staff with opportunities to confidently share these across subjects and classes. Pupils are helped to have a clear understanding of how the values apply to the learning and their lives. The school has started to consider opportunities for spiritual development. However, as there is not an embedded understanding of spirituality, pupils are not confident in expressing the impact of these. The updated school curriculum has been developed so pupils are well prepared for the future. Pupils are given the tools that they need to access the curriculum and are successful in their learning. Using additional spaces, pupils are supported in an environment that is nurturing and where they feel listened to. Pupils' individual strengths are recognised and celebrated. They are also encouraged to make connections and develop team work through their 'House' groups. Working in partnership with the MAT, leaders share their knowledge and experience, guiding curriculum development for local small schools. This is inspired by leaders' drive to live out the Christian vision for the benefit of others.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is planned by leaders and enriches pupils' understanding of the school's vision and associated values. There is a developing pattern and rhythm to worship which is informed by Anglican traditions of gathering, engaging and responding. Music is a key focus of worship and pupils enjoy the opportunity to sing together, with one voice. Bible stories are shared to help pupils to understand their place in the world and how they can live out the school's values. For example, the story of Noah's Ark demonstrates to pupils the importance of togetherness as God values everyone 'two by two.' Pupils respect local church leaders and the opportunity to encounter God, through collective worship and services. Leaders and families also value this connection and its positive impact on strengthening local community engagement with the school. However, opportunities for spiritual development in daily collective worship are not always evident. Therefore, pupils and adults are unable to confidently share how collective worship impacts on their lives and their own spirituality.

Religious Education

Strengthened by training from the diocese, leaders and staff understand the importance of RE. Through the effective evaluation of the curriculum, leaders have made relevant adaptations. These enhance the provision of RE by providing breadth and depth. Lessons are carefully sequenced and pupils learn about a range of faiths. For example, learning how people live out their different religious beliefs. The MAT helps leaders to evaluate the effectiveness of the RE curriculum which has led to a commitment by leaders to build on initial developments.



Recent training by the diocese inspires leaders to revise the curriculum to broaden pupils' understanding of diversity within religious and non-religious worldviews. This is in the planning stages but has not been implemented at the school. As a result, pupils struggle to draw together their understanding of diversity across beliefs. This limits the depth of their understanding of the impact of faith and belief on people's lives.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Following a period of stabilisation, the school is in a season of growth. With a clear focus on the vision, the school benefits from, and adds to, local partnerships. Living out the associated values and with the support of the church, the school is now an important part of the community. As a result of increased involvement in local traditions and activities, pupils feel an increased sense of belonging. Through a democratic process, pupils join the school council and effect change by raising awareness and championing charities such as The Book Trust. Pupils show gratitude for the food they have with a Harvest service and make donations towards the food bank and Harvest supper auction. House captains lead discussions with their peers, helping them to focus on Christian values, guiding them to take responsibility to help others. However, pupils have not developed a clear understanding of what justice means for them. This limits their understanding of how to challenge injustice.

Vision and School Culture

As a result of the school's vision and the actions of the leadership team, pupils and adults are treated well. This is seen in the interactions during lessons where pupils are confident to share their ideas and develop their thinking. During social times, pupils' relationships are respectful and there is a strong sense of belonging. This is a school where people are valued. Planned curriculum time, with a focus on wellbeing ensures the emotional needs of pupils are met. This ethos and culture of care is enhanced by the balance of both support and challenge. The needs of pupils are central, driven by the school's vision. Staff training from the MAT directly benefits the pupils by strengthening adults own skills and knowledge. Time to mentor colleagues beyond the school further enhances this, enabling pupils and adults to 'Let their light shine'. Staff are empowered to work together for the good of the pupils. As a result, collectively and individually they are committed to living out the school's Christian vision.

Information

Address	Huntham Lane, Stoke Gregory, Taunton, TA3 6EG		
Date	15 September 2025	URN	150233
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	55
Diocese	Bath and Wells		
MAT	The Oak Partnership		
MAT Chair	Paul Spencer		
Headteacher	David Rowland		
Chair of Local School Committee	Kate James		
Inspector	Jo Hunter		