

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

<b>Meriden Church of England Primary School</b>	
Address	Fillongley Road, Meriden, Coventry, CV7 7LW
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
An inspiring education centred on Friends, Faith and Lifelong Learning. At Meriden CE Primary School, we grow together in faith, knowledge, kindness and love. Inspired by 2 Peter 1: 5-8
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meriden's clear Christian vision ensures pupils and adults 'grow together in faith, knowledge, kindness and love'. As a result, all flourish here, within this caring community.</li> <li>• Leaders place an extremely high priority on inclusion, where all are welcomed and cared for. The school vision drives extensive support to ensure that pupils and families needs are met.</li> <li>• The wellbeing of pupils, adults and the community are at front and centre of all leaders' decisions and actions. The award of the International Cross of Nails (ICON) status to the school is a tribute to its work on reconciliation.</li> <li>• Pupils and adults highly value collective worship, as it enriches their spiritual development. However, there are fewer opportunities for leaders at all levels to evaluate its impact.</li> <li>• Pupils develop high levels of subject knowledge in some aspects of religious education (RE). However, there are limited opportunities to deepen their knowledge of a range of faiths and worldviews.</li> </ul>
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen partnerships with ICON schools and the diocese to share good practice and further enrich learning experiences.</li> <li>• Enhance opportunities for pupils to extend the depth of their knowledge and understanding of a range of faiths. This is so that they can extend their experience of cultures and differences, enhancing their appreciation of diversity.</li> <li>• Develop opportunities for leaders, including pupils, to monitor and evaluate worship. This is to further identify strengths and areas for development, leading to improving practice.</li> </ul>



## Inspection findings

Meriden is a school community that welcomes and celebrates all. Leaders describe the biblically underpinned vision as the 'coat hanger on which their values hang'. It is central to all the decisions that they make for the good of pupils and their families. This vision, based upon 2 Peter 1: 5-8, inspires all. Pupils rightly explain that it shows them 'how to care for each other'. Carefully selected Christian values are shared and celebrated by the whole school community. The vision linked school values of kindness and love have a positive impact on the flourishing of all. Families are supported with wide ranging projects and provision. For example, significant investment in staffing and training directly supports pupils who have special education needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Parents greatly appreciate this provision, correctly describing the school as a 'caring family that embraces all'. Staff model kindness for each other and consequently pupils follow these positive examples. Leaders consistently champion the school's values. They explain how love and compassion have been integral throughout recent local and worldwide challenges. This aids the successful navigation through change and school development. The school has been awarded the prestigious International Cross of Nails (ICON) status. This is a beacon for the school. It encourages children to think and act on peace and reconciliation. The award celebrates the school's commitment towards encouraging the growth of empathy and compassion for all people. Its impact on the wider community, however, is yet to be developed. Leaders champion the benefits of partnerships, like significant investment in staff training and support packages. However, a broader partnership with the diocese and its local church schools, is less well developed.

The vision is championed by governors as pivotal in steering leaders' school improvement priorities. Integrity in decision making, enriches opportunities for pupils and adults to flourish. During times of challenge and change, governors support the school with care and compassion. Pupils have a well-established understanding of how the school's Christian vision underpins all aspects of daily life. Parents highly value the love and support that their children receive. They appreciate that staff are 'always willing to go the extra mile'. In many instances this has a transformative effect on families. The school's achievement of the Parent Partnership Award highlights the school's effectiveness in this area. Staff highlight the importance of the Christian vision and values in their own lives. They rightly describe the school as a 'loving family'. Consequently, strong bonds are formed across the whole community. Teachers work collaboratively. They draw on each others' strengths to choose, shape, plan and deliver engaging enrichment opportunities. These engender a love of learning in their pupils. As a result, all enjoy school and flourish.

Through specially selected learning opportunities, spiritual development is enriched by input from pupils and adults, and driven by the school's vision. Governors describe their role to support the school as they 'embrace the needs of all'. Leaders prioritise opportunities for reflection in school. This is also a highlight at wider attended church linked services. These ensure a widespread understanding of spirituality for the whole community. Pupils and adults are able to effectively reflect on themselves, others and their place in God's world. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness is well-developed as a result of effective provision provided. The school vision inspires pupils to confidently speak up about matters of injustice. Committed support of charities is championed and celebrated. Leaders work with the school council on decision making, with the specific donations for Operation Christmas Child being valued by all. The Christian value of compassion is cited by pupils who wish to 'help those in need'. Leaders ensure everyone's positive mental health and wellbeing is valued. This is appreciated by all and leads to harmonious relationships in abundance.



Effective pastoral care wraps around pupils and adults, surrounding them with compassion. This is fully inspired by the distinctively Christian vision. Leaders express their commitment to 'nurture all in their community'. They strategically allocate resources to support pupils with SEND, like funding additional targeted interventions. These are effectively evaluated and constantly reviewed with families, ensuring that all pupils can flourish. Links with the local community, both with the local church and beyond, is highly valued by all. As a result, the school's inclusive nature guarantees that all are welcomed and celebrated. Leaders ensure the curriculum is developing pupils who are honest and motivated citizens. Pupils articulately highlight their views on the value of every person. Local and worldwide problems are recognised and discussed. Pupils explain how their school's vision, linked to the value of love, acts as an inspiration to the way they treat others. Forgiveness and reconciliation are at the heart of the school's restorative approach to behaviour management. As a result, appreciative and well-rounded individuals are developed, with positive relationships abound.

Invitational collective worship is a direct expression of the school's vision. It is inclusive, ensuring the key Christian messages permeate all aspects of school life. Pupils and adults are inspired and able to talk about the values that underpin it. Pupils have significant opportunities to lead worship. This has been achieved by the creation of the 'worship team'. However, the evaluation of its impact is at an early stage. Pupils are invited to explore how worship themes can enrich their lives and how they can reflect them in their behaviours. Anglican traditions are clearly visible throughout the school, with pupils able to articulate the Christian belief in God as the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Strong links with the local church ensures special events, such as the Easter service that are appreciated by all. Additional enrichment opportunities broaden pupils' understanding of Anglican traditions, such as 'Experience Harvest'.

The school vision drives the importance of RE within the curriculum. Leaders successfully weave together the teaching of a range of faiths and worldviews with additional high quality learning resources. Effective learning objectives, framed as big questions, invite thoughtful responses. The curriculum effectively provides opportunities for pupils to express their philosophical and theological understanding. The school cultivates pupils who appreciate that the world is a diverse place. Consequently, they recognise Christianity as a worldwide faith. As a result, pupils recognise and are respectful of differences. However, opportunities for pupils to interact with a broader group of faith leaders, places of worship and wider worldview are less developed.

Meriden's deeply theologically rooted Christian vision is at the heart of the school's success. The result is an inclusive community where leaders ensure that pupils and adults flourish.



Information			
School	Meriden Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	16 March 2023
URN	104087	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	Coventry	Pupils on roll	188
Headteacher	Lucy Anderton		
Chair of Governors	Bridgette Chandler		
Inspector	David Scorer	No.	841