

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

### Brompton-on-Swale Church of England VC Primary School

#### Vision

We believe in having the courage to shine: Courage to...

Face new challenges

Be the best version of ourselves

Have an inquisitive mind

As a school we have highlighted four key Christian values that help to underpin our vision:

Endurance, trust, compassion and forgiveness

The stories of David and Ruth underpin the vision and help the children to understand the 3 main strands of 'having the courage to shine.'

Brompton-on-Swale 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.

#### Strengths

- The Christian vision, to have the courage to shine, underpins the life of the school. As a result, pupils and adults feel nurtured and empowered to be the best versions of themselves.
- The thriving partnership with the local church supports the school to provide engaging, inclusive and creative worship. Pupils and adults flourish through meaningful opportunities that help them to relate biblical teachings to their lives and the wider world.
- The vision drives a rich curriculum that enables pupils to face challenges and develop inquisitive minds. Numerous opportunities are provided that allow pupils to shine as valued, unique individuals.
- There is a positive culture of care and respect in the school. Wellbeing and positive mental health are prioritised in this inclusive community. As a result, pupils, including the most vulnerable, flourish.
- Effective, strong leadership in religious education (RE) has established a challenging curriculum. Regular support and professional development ensure that staff feel confident to deliver engaging lessons.

#### Development Points

- Fully embed pupils' and adults' understanding of the vision's revised biblical link to the stories of David and Ruth. This is so that individuals further deepen their understanding of how the vision's biblical roots help them to shine.
- Develop a shared understanding and common language for spirituality. Use this to plan opportunities across the curriculum that deepen spiritual flourishing.
- Provide more opportunities for collective worship to inspire individual prayer and reflection. This is so that individuals' spiritual experiences are enriched and deepened.



## Inspection Findings

Brompton-on-Swale is a school where individuals flourish and shine. The Christian vision is at the heart of the school's work, creating an inclusive, united community. Pupils and adults show courage each day. They readily draw upon the language of the Christian values of endurance, trust, compassion and forgiveness. Individuals confidently articulate how these values contribute to them being their best versions of themselves. The recent decision to incorporate the stories of David and Ruth further roots the vision in biblical teachings. However, pupils and adults are not confident in expressing this aspect of the school's Christian identity. Leaders and governors ensure that actions to improve provision are grounded in the school's vision. Investing in teaching time to close learning gaps and provision for vulnerable learners exemplify how pupils are empowered to shine. Staff are enabled by the supportive relationships cultivated as part of the Synergy Federation. It's Christian vision to foster growth aligns with the school's vision to nurture and encourage. Collaborative partnerships proactively drive improvement and enable Brompton-on-Swale to show courage and shine as a school within a flourishing federation.

The vision underpins an aspirational 'research-based' curriculum. Opportunities to investigate and ask big questions are the bedrock of learning, enabling pupils to have inquisitive minds. They thrive as a result of the caring support given to them and relish the opportunity to achieve academic success. Consequently, pupils learn well. Leaders communicate high expectations and pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), rise to the challenge. The highly inclusive approach promotes equitable access to the curriculum. An impressive extracurricular offer is tailored to pupils' interests. Leaders endeavour to ensure that individuals fully participate and find joy in all aspects of school life. The impact of this is evident through pupils' high attendance. Opportunities for spiritual development are considered and recognised within the curriculum. However, there is no agreed understanding or language of spirituality used across the school. Thus, opportunities for pupils to explore aspects of spirituality are not fully developed across the curriculum. This limits how pupils and adults can express how experiences impact on their individual, spiritual development.

Collective worship is a central feature of life at Brompton-on-Swale School. It provides precious time when leaders guide pupils to reflect and celebrate how the Christian vision is lived out. The mutually supportive relationship with St Paul's Church is the cornerstone of the school's weekly approach. Church volunteers use drama and music to retell key stories from the Bible. For example, by creatively dramatising the nativity story, the team enabled pupils to reflect thoughtfully on Jesus as a saviour. Questions shared by the church team enable pupils to deepen their understanding. Responses evidence philosophical thinking, relating teachings to the school community and wider world. Leaders include times of song, reflection and discussion, offering a rich variety of worship that encourages spiritual development. Invitational opportunities to pray are included within worship. However, there are fewer opportunities for worship to inspire individual prayer and reflection more widely throughout the day. Thus, the power of collective worship to deepen spiritual growth is not fully realised. Pupils value the emotional boost that they get from Friday celebration worships. Pertinent examples of how pupils have lived out the vision are shared that encourage and inspire the whole community. Parents are informed about collective worship through regular electronic communications. This enables them to be aware of themes and values and extends the impact of collective worship beyond the school.



Brompton-on Swale has a culture where pupils and staff treat each other well. Adults lead by example, modelling the school's Christian values. As a result, expectations are clear and behaviour in and around school is excellent. Living the vision is promoted through themed events, such as kindness and diversity weeks. These opportunities foster a sense of compassion and forgiveness, evident in the way that pupils interact with one another. Younger pupils are 'buddied' with older pupils. They provide encouragement and help individuals to know what it means to 'shine your light.' Platinum Pupil Awards provide opportunities to reflect on Christian values and how these can be shown in daily life. Systems to enhance, prioritise and monitor good mental health and wellbeing are embedded. Consequently, staff and pupils feel valued and cared for. In times of need and personal challenge, leaders ensure that staff are well supported. The school team greatly values the range of development opportunities that they can access. Relevant professional qualifications and coaching help staff to grow and shine in their respective roles.

Within the school there is a strong sense of responsibility. Pupils understand that leadership roles enable them to represent others and be the best version of themselves. They relish the opportunities to lead and effect change. Roles, such as reading ambassadors, school council and sports leaders generate enthusiasm, commitment and pride. Planned curriculum learning enables pupils to consider issues of justice and ethical questions. Pupils are confident and unafraid to stand up for what is right. This was evident in work during 'Black History Week.' Pupils presented their findings about the endurance shown in the face of adversity by Black, historical role models. Gathering regular donations for the 'open pantry' foodbank supports the church and helps pupils to 'shine' in their community. The weekly use of news sources deepens pupils' knowledge of world events and global issues. Opportunities to promote, advocate and raise funds for world organisations ensure that pupils know that they can make a difference.

The RE curriculum makes a significant contribution to the school's Christian character. Leaders have tailored the programme of study adopted by local schools to meet the needs of their community. This includes accessing a range of resources and materials to provide engaging opportunities that encourage analysis, self-reflection and deep thinking. Learning is carefully sequenced to develop knowledge and understanding. Thus, pupils build their comprehension of Christianity as a global religion, as well as a range of world faiths and worldviews. Leaders and staff access regular training and support from the diocese and federation. As a result, staff have high expectations and are confident in delivering a diverse, creative curriculum. Complex issues and concepts are introduced and carefully explored as pupils move through the school. For example, older pupils are challenged to consider how important life rituals vary depending on individual belief. Planned real-life experiences, including visits and visitors, enrich the curriculum. Pupils enjoy the challenge of RE. They appreciate that their contributions are valued and realise that RE is an important subject. Pupils can confidently articulate how it helps them to understand their own beliefs and respect the beliefs of others.

## Information

Address	Brompton Park, Brompton-on-Swale, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL10 7JW		
Date	09 December 2024	URN	121481
Type of school	Voluntary Controlled	No. of pupils	219
Diocese	Leeds		
Federation	Synergy Federation		
Executive Headteacher	Mike White		
Head of School	Adam Firmin		
Chair of Governors	Andrea Offord		
Inspector	Steven Holmes		