

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Moulton Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	School Road, Moulton, CB8 8PR
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	Excellent
The impact of collective worship	Excellent

School's vision
<p>You shall love your neighbour as yourself – Matthew 22:39</p> <p>We aspire for individuals to grow as children of God, and to flourish in an environment where they feel loved, supported and wanted. We strive for everyone to value themselves and others; to respect and care for one another, and to honour God with their unique talents.</p>
Key findings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspirational leaders drive all aspects of the school community's development, through their Christian vision. This often includes innovative ways to remove barriers, enabling each individual to flourish. • The school's culture of deep reflection is an integral part of the curriculum. It develops pupils' spirituality. This transformational approach encourages curiosity and enables all to look beyond themselves, by fostering a sense of wonder and responsibility. Opportunities for spiritual growth are currently more focused within the school building. • The wellbeing of the entire community is a high priority for this school. Care and support are both practical and compassionate. This ensures all thrive in relationships built upon their Christian vision. • Collective worship is at the heart of this school, enriched by their excellent relationship with the church. Pupils contribute to worship in meaningful ways, including independently planning and leading acts of worship. • Religious Education (RE) is inspirational. It is rigorously academic, meticulously planned and adapted to provide challenge or support. The strong subject knowledge of staff and an enquiry-based approach leads to excellent religious literacy and ensures pupils have both breadth and depth to their knowledge. By sharing their best practice, leaders have supported the growth of other schools within the diocese.
Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To further develop areas for spiritual growth in outdoor spaces, so that provision is equally as strong as inside the school.



Inspection findings

This excellent school embodies its Christian vision, through the love and care that it offers the entire community. Leaders celebrate the individual and recognise their responsibility towards one other. School decisions and policies are driven by their vision. Leaders at all levels, are committed to their distinctive Christian vision. It is underpinned by the biblical text, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'. Not only does this mean support for pupils and their families but it also extends to staff. All acknowledge the very positive impact that being part of this school has on their personal and professional development. The potential of pupils is not limited by social, financial or geographical barriers, nor by family circumstances. School leaders are determined to find ways to remove challenges. In doing so, they transform the lives of families and broaden opportunities for pupils and staff. They have formed strong innovative partnerships that ensure every pupil has the same chance to flourish. The school's values of individuality, community and responsibility are understood and lived out by all at Moulton CEVC. Parents recognise that these values are ingrained and stand their children in good stead for the next phase of their education. Rigorous monitoring by governors and school leaders ensures their regular reflection on their effectiveness as a Church school.

The school's broad and balanced curriculum is underpinned by the school's Christian vision and associated values. Learning is adapted to ensure all pupils are able to access it successfully. Staff are very skilful at recognising where a child may struggle, whether it is because of learning, emotional or physical difficulties. They ensure that the curriculum is meaningful and transformational. Entwined throughout it are opportunities for deep reflection. Pupils are able to discuss and ponder over big questions. These occasions contribute towards the spiritual development of pupils, as they wonder, question and respond. For example, news articles on experience of the Windrush generation enraged pupils as they reflected upon the injustice and inequality displayed. This is when they learn to become advocates for social change and to form a true sense of fairness. Pupil voice is very strong at Moulton CEVC. Both the wellbeing committee and school council support spiritual growth and awareness of global issues. However, it is not restricted to only them. Whenever something moves pupils to respond, they do so with the support of the entire community. The pupils' response to supporting families in Ukraine came directly from them. They chose to support a local bid, to raise money and send items to Ukraine. Their parents and the school were very proud of their determination and significant contribution. There are many examples of when pupils have chosen to take action to raise money or raise awareness. These efforts frequently meet with noteworthy success and pupils can be sure their message has been understood. The wellbeing committee love to lead a competition. Each one is carefully considered, contributing towards the Christian distinctiveness of this school. For example, recycling materials to build a place of worship.

Behaviour is exemplary at Moulton CEVC because the Christian vision is so deeply embedded. Relationships are the foundation of this school. Staff consistently model their high expectations for respect and kindness. The school celebrates individuality, normalises difference and respects diversity. Consequently, every child flourishes in a community where they feel safe and show exceptional support for one another. The sense of hope and aspiration is elevated at Moulton CEVC. This is because they have a well-developed sense of responsibility for themselves, of others and the world they live in.

Worship is the beating heart of this school community. It is guided by its very strong relationship with the local church and Diocese. As a result, the traditions and liturgies of the Anglican church are widely used. Pupils speak confidently about the symbols representing the Holy Trinity. Worship is deeply engaging and inclusive, so pupils are inspired to plan and

lead their own worship. They regularly lead worship independently. This gives opportunities to further the spiritual growth of all. Pupils speak enthusiastically of Bible stories and the joyfulness of song. Prayer and singing are invitational. Pupils respect one another's right to take part in worship. Moments of stillness for reflection or prayer are intrinsic to worship. This also extends to other times and places in school. Spaces for reflection are more developed within the school building, than they currently are outside. Governors monitor collective worship and ensure they have the views of the staff and pupils. This has led to further improvements. For example, words provided on the screen for reflection, whilst everyone enters the hall.

RE is inspirational. This fact is appreciated within the diocese and so the sharing of resources and expertise, with other schools and the cathedral, contributes to their development. It is carefully planned. A set of 'RE roadmaps', they have devised, enables staff to see the learning that came before and what will follow each piece of work. This ensures pupils build upon prior learning and that there is continuous progression within the curriculum. Books show that pupils have a deep sense of respect for all faiths and worldviews. They also demonstrate an extraordinary breadth in their knowledge. Pupils speak confidently and enthusiastically about their learning. They recognise that RE is important and that it enables them to have a clearer perspective upon different cultures within the world. Christianity is taught as a global faith. Their learning also extends to finding out about the different denominations within Christianity. Governors and senior leaders monitor teaching and learning frequently through the year. As a result, they know their strengths and continue to strive for small adjustments that may lead to the further development of this subject.

Information			
School	Moulton Church of England VC Primary School	Inspection date	19 May 2023
URN	124709	VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled
Diocese/District	St Edmundsbury & Ipswich	Pupils on roll	201
Headteacher	Deborah Shipp		
Chair of Governors	Carl Logan		
Inspector	Christina Galletly	No.	975