

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

Bradley St Martin's Church of England Primary Academy	
Address	Wallace Road, Bradley, Bilston, WV14 8BS
School vision	
<p>Our vision is for our school community to know they are unique, valued and loved both by God and others so that they can shine the light of Jesus through their words and actions.          'You are the light of the world ... let your light shine...' (Matthew 5: 14-16)</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The powerful Christian vision deeply resonates with adults and pupils, enabling them to express how they make their light shine. Consequently, all thrive and are proud to belong to this school community.</li> <li>• Inspired by the vision, leaders are passionate in their drive to ensure learning experiences are memorable for the pupils. Supported by leaders' bold decisions, the highly effective pastoral team ensures any barriers to learning are overcome. Therefore, the inclusive and nurturing support for more vulnerable pupils ensures all flourish in their learning.</li> <li>• The vision is clearly lived out in the relationships within the school and through the St. Martin's Trust partnership. Adults and pupils appreciate feeling valued and loved, acknowledging the positive contribution this is having on their wellbeing.</li> <li>• The well-planned religious education (RE) curriculum is engaging and challenging. This is reflected in pupils' extensive knowledge of worldviews and world religions, including Christianity as a diverse global faith.</li> <li>• Shining their light through words and actions has enabled pupils to develop in a range of leadership roles. They demonstrate an awareness of injustice and have a deep sense of responsibility towards others. As a result, they make caring choices that impact positively on people's lives.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a shared language and understanding of spirituality across the school. Use this to enable adults and pupils to confidently express their spiritual growth.</li> <li>• Extend opportunities for all pupils to actively engage in worship activities through participation and leadership to enrich their spiritual development.</li> <li>• Increase opportunities for pupils to explore global issues. This is to enable pupils to be effective agents of change beyond their local community.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>Love and care flows throughout St. Martin's embracing all. A deep understanding of the school community they serve drives leaders to ensure all can shine their light. Staff, at all levels, value and appreciate the uniqueness of pupils and their families. Rooted in the vision, staff reach out to support families to overcome some of the most difficult challenges. This lived and breathed vision,</p>	



giving the gift of hope, enables lives to be changed. The school is a member of St. Martin's Trust. The Trust's vision 'a place to thrive,' resonates closely with the school's Christian vision. This alignment ensures that pupils are at the heart of all decision making. Bold decisions are made by leaders, for example, funding a split class to ensure all pupils can achieve. Through the strength of the school's vision and values, leaders demonstrate respect, resilience and compassion towards everyone. As a result, adults and pupils express how they feel valued, loved and supported to let their light shine.

Inspired by the vision, leaders are unwavering in their drive to make learning memorable for their pupils. 'Big questions' that are relevant and exciting underpin the innovative curriculum offer, ensuring broad and rich learning experiences. Pupils say they love learning and readily talk about subjects they enjoy. Leaders champion staff by encouraging them to let their own talents shine. Beautiful artwork is displayed throughout the school demonstrating how pupils benefit from the breadth of staff expertise. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are sensitively incorporated as part of the class to fully access the curriculum. The resource base at the school provides bespoke provision for pupils with SEND. The positive impact of the vision is demonstrated through the success the base has on the pupils' integration into school. Parents give many examples of how the base staff nurture their children, enabling them to succeed. One parent stated how her child has thrived since being at the base and willingly travels thirty miles each day. Meeting the emotional needs of pupils is a priority for the pastoral team. Pupils confidently say how they can go to the pastoral room to self-regulate and feel calm. Leaders foster pupils' gifts and interests by ensuring a range of after school clubs are available for all pupils. Strong partnerships with the Trust and Lichfield Diocese enhance professional development opportunities, enabling staff to be highly skilled and confident. This results in a wide range of quality learning experiences for pupils. Hence, all pupils, including the most vulnerable and those with SEND, are given the tools to shine and flourish.

The vision underpins a sense of spiritual awareness. Pupils know they can shine their light to be the best they can be. One pupil commented, 'You can shine your light anywhere, any place, anytime.' Leaders rightly recognise that pupils and adults lack confidence in discussing spirituality and are ambitious to enhance spiritual growth. They are in the process of identifying opportunities for pupils to engage in spiritual experiences across the curriculum. Thus, a shared language and an understanding of wider opportunities for spiritual development are in the early stages.

Central to all acts of worship is the vision to shine the light of Jesus. Leaders have thoughtfully interwoven the school's associated values through the planned and sequenced worship themes. This develops pupils' understanding of biblical texts, inspiring them to apply Jesus' teachings and Christian values to their own actions. The atmosphere is reverent and calm with adults and pupils recognising worship as a special time. Moments of stillness and invitational prayer offers occasion for reflection on important messages, thus, enhancing spiritual flourishing. Collective worship is inclusive, as such, staff support pupils with SEND by using sign language. The strong partnership between the school and the local vicar provides opportunities for visits to church. Celebrating key festivals in church enriches the school community's understanding of prayer and worship, These experiences contribute significantly to spiritual growth. However, pupils have limited opportunities to actively participate in worship, hence, reducing the impact it has on their spiritual development.

The Christian vision and core values create a nurturing culture in which people feel appreciated for their uniqueness. Pupils are extremely gracious and polite both to each other and to all who visit the school. They are celebrated in Friday worship for showing the values of resilience, respect and compassion. Small disagreements sometimes happen between pupils, but they know how to forgive and move on. Pupils link giving their friends another chance to the parable of the lost son who was forgiven by his father. Celebrating differences and learning to speak Spanish broadens pupils' understanding of diversity. The positive impact was demonstrated by a pupil teaching a new child to

the school to speak English. Parents rightly appreciate that staff have time to listen and talk to them. They speak positively about the help and support they receive. Many examples were shared of how leaders understand and support staff both personally and professionally. The Trust prioritises decisions that enable all to flourish in their career pathways and in their pastoral wellbeing. Therefore, both pupils and adults feel cherished, loved and treated well.

Opportunities for pupils to shine as leaders is an unforced expression of the vision. There is a breadth of leadership roles available, including 'peer supporters,' who are trained to support pupils' wellbeing. They proudly discuss how pupils trust them to help with any worries or concerns. Truly demonstrating through words and actions their deep sense of responsibility towards others. Christian compassion is evident in the charitable actions of the school, which include collecting food bank donations. Pupils show how they care about the local environment by making posters to inspire people to pick up rubbish. As a result, pupils confidently talk about equality and environmental issues. However, opportunities for pupils to be effective agents for change beyond their local community are underdeveloped.

RE is highly prioritised and meets the statutory church requirements. Curriculum planning is well sequenced, building on prior learning. It is guided by the 'Understanding Christianity' resource that encourages pupils' critical thinking. As a result, pupils demonstrate a deep understanding of worldviews and the diversity across a range of world religions. Festivals, such as Diwali, are celebrated during enrichment days. These RE curriculum days also offer pupils the opportunity to share their religions. Leaders benefit from diocesan training, which is cascaded to staff. Through a termly RE focus, the Trust ensures staff training and RE resources impact positively on the pupils' learning experiences. Consequently, the effective RE curriculum makes learning memorable for pupils.

The inspection findings indicate that St Martin's Church of England Primary Academy is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	8 December 2023	URN	141825
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	212
Diocese	Lichfield		
MAT/Federation	St Martin's Multi Academy Trust		
Head of School	Lauren Smith		
Chair	Ian Keepins		
Inspector	Beverley Roberts	No.	2122