

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hutton Henry Church of England Primary School

Address	Hutton Henry, Hartlepool, TS27 4RY		
Date of inspection	24 October 2019	Status of school	Voluntary Controlled Primary
Diocese	Durham	URN	114232

Overall Judgement	Grade
How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	Good
Additional Judgement	Grade
The impact of collective worship	Good

School context

Hutton Henry Church of England is a primary school with 77 pupils on roll. The school has a very low level of religious and cultural diversity and no pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is above national averages. The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is below national averages. The school has grown in recent years, however despite limited space, leaders have ensured there is a good staff to pupil ratio in all classes.

The school's Christian vision 'Together We Succeed'

We believe it is our responsibility to show our pupils the value of all people, to celebrate difference, and to take a stand for acceptance and inclusion. We believe that the bible story of Zacchaeus gives the focus which staff, pupils and parents of our school drive to achieve. (Luke 19:1-10)

Key findings

- Hutton Henry's strong Christian vision, rooted in the story of Zacchaeus, has a significant influence on the work that the school does on a day to day basis. It reflects the context of the community, and ensures that all pupils, whatever their needs and background, are warmly welcomed.
- All members of the school community are able to articulate the impact of the school's Christian vision on their lives. The school provides a caring and nurturing environment where everyone is part of a 'family in God's hands'.
- Pupils and adults feel valued and supported by leaders to 'reach the best possible outcomes in all areas of their lives'. The headteacher is determined that everyone can flourish. They are passionate that everyone should live out the school's Christian vision, through the shared core values, so that their motto 'Together We Succeed' becomes a reality for all.
- The school plays a strong role in the life of the community and beyond. Leaders have developed mutually beneficial relationships with the parish priest and curate. Together they have supported pupils and families to explore their own beliefs and faith through worship, prayer spaces and religious education (RE).

Areas for development

- Build on the work already in done by leaders to ensure the strong Christian vision holistically infuses the strategic work of the school. Ensure well-shaped policies, which are rigorously evaluated, lead to excellent practice in all areas of school life.
- Pupils to further develop their role in collective worship by regularly planning and delivering worship, which brings relevance to the teachings of Jesus to pupils' lives.

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Inspection findings

Hutton Henry Church of England Primary provides a warm, welcoming and nurturing environment which seeks to develop a strong foundation for the all pupils in its care. The school's Christian vision and its associated values, are firmly rooted in the Christian narrative. Central to this vision is that just as God recognised Zacchaeus in the crowd, the school knows and nurtures each and every individual. They shape the work of the school, and the lives of pupils and adults, on a day to day basis. All members of the school community can clearly articulate the vision and talk about the impact it has on their lives. Leaders have developed and strengthened the vision over the past few years. The school continues to respond to the needs of the community following the closure of the village church. They ensure the school is fully inclusive in order to meet the needs of individual pupils. The headteacher prioritises partnership working with the priest and curate to 'bring hope back to the community'. This results in the school being proud of its Christian distinctiveness, and becoming a 'key focal point as a Christian presence within the village'. Leaders, including governors, regularly monitor the impact of the vision. Currently this is mainly focused on the impact and effectiveness RE and collective worship. Leaders recognise that this should be extended to evaluate the extent to which the Christian vision shapes other policies and practices across all areas of school life.

The Headteacher is passionate about wanting to 'open pupils' eyes' so there is no ceiling to what they can do and achieve. They provide a wide range of opportunities in school, which allow pupils to achieve their potential and shine. They are well supported by a committed staff team who all believe in, and strive to, live out the school's motto 'together we succeed'. The curriculum, shaped by the vision, focuses on the whole child. Leaders value both academic achievement and the personal and spiritual development of their pupils. Pupils, over time, make good progress from their starting points. Leaders have made bold decisions to ensure this holistic approach is given the necessary time and resources within school. This has led to a well-embedded outdoor curriculum across the school. It successfully supports pupils' spiritual development, as they learn about themselves, others and the world that God has created. Pupils engage in exciting and challenging learning opportunities in forest and beach school, which allow them to develop effective team work, resilience, and independence. This in turn impacts on their academic achievements through their ability to problem solve and think more creatively to find solutions in other curriculum areas.

The school actively seeks the voice of all its pupils through their committee system which covers areas such as RE, equalities, charities and eco issues. Staff encourage pupils to be courageous advocates by identifying both global and national issues which have an impact on their own community. For example, pupils responded to the issue of plastic waste by aiming to ban single-use plastic in school. By distributing leaflets in the village, the pupils have an impact beyond the school, in reducing single-use plastics in local households. Pupils confidently talk about how the vision and values support them to be the best they can be, and take action to support others who face injustice and inequality.

Pupils and adults live well together in a community where everyone is noticed, valued and celebrated. Positive and effective relationships are evident across the whole school community. The school's behaviour policy is based on the principles of restorative justice, shaped by the Christian vision. Pupils behave very well. They talk about 'what would Jesus have said or done' when resolving any issues that arise. Older pupils support younger children well and act as good role models showing kindness and care. Through their involvement in the local school partnership's 'Year of Emotional Wellbeing', leaders prioritise the wellbeing, of both staff and pupils This is central to the work of the school so that everyone can flourish and succeed as part of 'God's wider family'.

Hutton Henry is a silver accredited 'Celebrate and Educate' school. The curriculum has a strong focus on respecting and celebrating difference. Children are able to talk about how this mirrors Jesus' love through all, and how he showed this through the story of Zacchaeus. Pupils feel safe in school. They say that bullying is rare and that if it happened it would always be immediately dealt with by adults in school.

Collective worship brings the vision alive for pupils. It is an important part of the school day, giving pupils and staff a positive start. Both pupils and adults are encouraged to think about the how they live their lives and how this impacts on others. Leaders and parents value the involvement of the church community in collective worship. The 'Open the Book' programme uses drama effectively to bring the stories from the Bible alive for pupils. In partnership with the priest and curate, the school has taken collective worship out into the community. They use creative and interactive 'prayer space' activities which encourage both personal reflection and spirituality. This actively engages families and members of the community. It has 'offered a bridge' between the village and school. Prayer space events have been warmly received and valued by pupils and adults. One parent talked about the positive impact of the prayer space event and how it had 'touched her'. Pupils are involved in planning prayer space activities and delivering worship. This is predominantly guided by adults rather than springing from the pupil's own ideas which bring relevance to the teachings of Jesus in their lives.

The RE leader shows a real passion for the subject. She has a clear vision that ensures RE is of a high quality, centred around secure knowledge and understanding. Pupils are given regular opportunities to think critically about Christianity and other world religions and to consider the relevance of them to their own beliefs and ideas. The clergy support RE effectively through regular input in lessons and church visits. RE is considered by all to be a core subject. RE is well resourced, staff receive regular training and have high expectations. This is reflected in the school being awarded the bronze 'RE Quality Mark'. The RE leader is in the process of considering how to capture the conversations and thinking of pupils, so that the RE books reflect the quality and depth of learning that takes place across the school.

Hutton Henry is a good school with real strengths. The whole school community works 'Together to Succeed' within a Christian context, enabling pupils and adults to flourish in all areas of school life.

Headteacher	Susan Gibbins
Inspector's name and number	Jo Warner 950