

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Hampstead Parochial Church of England Primary School			
Address	Holly Bush Vale, Heath Street, Hampstead NW3 6TX		
Date of inspection	28 November 2019	Status of school	Voluntary Aided
Diocese	London	URN	100031

Overall Judgement	How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?	Grade	Excellent
Additional Judgements	The impact of collective worship	Grade	Excellent
	The effectiveness of religious education (RE)	Grade	Excellent

School context

Hampstead Parochial is a primary school with 236 pupils on roll. The majority of pupils are of White British heritage. Many pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is below national averages. The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is in line with national averages. Since the last inspection, a new executive headteacher has been appointed.

The school's Christian vision

'Educating for life in all its fullness'

To enable everyone within our community to flourish and enjoy a life filled with meaning and purpose, underpinned by Christian values, a love of learning and an eagerness to make the world a better place together.

'I have come in order that you might have life—life in all its fullness'. (John 10:10)

Key findings

- The Christian vision is implicitly pervasive throughout all aspects of school life leading to an inclusive and welcoming Christian community where people feel cherished and supported.
- An impressive partnership between the local church and the school enriches worship and nourishes the spiritual journeys of all in the school community. This is having a significant, positive impact on the lives of pupils and adults.
- There is an outstanding sense of shared purpose that unites the school, parents and the church. The value of koinonia can be seen at every turn and helps to transform the lives of members of the school community.
- Pastoral care in this Christian community is transformative and genuinely supportive of both pupils and staff, allowing all to have hope and aspiration. The mental health and wellbeing of the pupils and their families is nurtured very well.
- The school has a creative, innovative curriculum, but its global links are less well developed. Standards in religious education (RE) are high in both teaching and learning, inspiring pupils who are unreservedly positive about the subject.

Areas for development

- Ensure that international links are firmly established so that pupils may think globally and develop a deeper understanding of disadvantage and social injustice in different parts of the world.

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

Hampstead Parochial has a deeply embedded distinctively Christian vision and associated values that are biblically based. They successfully drive developments, making an exceptional impact on school life, through an active focus on enabling all to experience 'life in all its fullness'. The vision is underpinned by the Christian ethos of love, compassion and thankfulness which invests heavily in staff, parents and pupils. Governors are actively involved in the school's self-evaluation, supporting the inspirational executive headteacher and leadership team in bringing about extensive improvements. This results in decisions that are in harmony with the vision and which enhance the Christian community considerably. For instance, two years ago the governors took the courageous decision to develop a formal partnership with another local church school. This has had a positive impact on both schools and sits fully within the Christian vision. The distinctive Christian values of forgiveness, responsibility, koinonia, friendship, compassion and respect, are highly visible. Beautiful posters and displays are situated prominently throughout the school's public areas and corridors, as well as in all classrooms. As a result, the whole school community articulates these values passionately and can link them to Bible passages. Pupils demonstrate them in their lives, both at school and at home. As one pupil stated, 'If someone does something wrong, we forgive them and don't hold a grudge'. Pupils receive special certificates during Tuesday worship for undertaking values in action. Pupils greatly value this recognition and say, 'We can live in all its fullness because the school lets us explore everything we can'. The development points from the previous inspection have been successfully addressed.

The school's vision and values have a positive impact on pupils' academic performance, which is above the national average in all subjects and is consistently improving. This is especially applicable to vulnerable pupils, who, because of exemplary support, also achieve outstandingly well. Guidance and practical support are provided to parents, who are experiencing difficulties, by school staff and the clergy team. The broad, creative curriculum provides many culturally rich experiences. Invaluable expertise is offered by parents so that everyone may live life in all its fullness. They visit the school to provide enrichment such as daily fitness exercises or to talk about their faith and diverse cultures. This could be seen on the day of the inspection, which was Thanksgiving Day. Some American parents were taking time on their special day to talk to grateful staff and pupils about this celebration.

The school uses God's love for others as a moral compass in order to have the courage to confront social injustice. Compassion and respect are shown towards others through the support of numerous charities, including WaterAid, Cancer Research, The Children's Society, Race for Life and a local foodbank. Staff, too, model courageous advocacy. The executive headteacher ran the London marathon and raised over £8,000 for charity. This enabled pupils to see that resilience and determination can inspire them to make a difference. Pupils' care for others can be seen in the way they regularly visit the elderly in local care homes. They were proactive in ensuring the school provided better facilities for recycling. This followed an act of worship that highlighted the problem of plastic in the oceans. Global links are at an early stage of development. However, a new project, helping to support an orphanage in Tanzania, is beginning to take shape.

Hampstead Parochial works closely with a mental health and wellbeing consultant in order to provide excellent support for both adults and pupils. Staff say they are supported very well, both pastorally and in their professional development and aspirational needs. Pupils are emboldened to develop excellent leadership skills, demonstrating the value of responsibility in numerous ways. These include their roles as house captains, school councillors, worship leaders and garden club volunteers. Quiet areas around the school give pupils opportunities to reflect. A Year 6 pupil remarked, 'The garden helps us to think and raise our aspirations'. Pupils engage reflectively and critically with big questions and ideas that nurture their spiritual development exceptionally well. Their responses are captured in striking art projects around the school and in class 'Wonder Books'.

Collective worship is led passionately and is the heartbeat of the school. Themes are based firmly on Christian values and the life and teaching of Jesus. As a result, pupils talk confidently about Jesus' teaching and its impact on their own lives. The partnership between the school and the church is exceptionally strong. The clergy team provide innovative and regular support to the school, especially for collective worship and RE. This ensures that pupils are developing a deep understanding of Anglican traditions and Christian festivals. The centrality of prayer has a significant impact on the personal, mental health and understanding of both pupils and adults. Families who are not practising Christians say that their children are learning how to live their lives well through the vision

and values. They attend acts of worship because they feel included and respected by the 'kind, loving, supportive staff'.

Hampstead Parochial's vision of educating for life in all its fullness stretches beyond the boundaries of the school. The executive headteacher shares his substantial expertise by providing extensive training and support to other church schools further afield. The effective RE leader steers innovation in the RE curriculum and assessment, expanding this to support other schools in the diocese.

RE is highly motivating and inspirational, delivering an exemplary and engaging learning experience for pupils. It inspires pupils to build a compassionate and reflective community to notable effect. Pupils learn about Christianity as a living faith and about other world religions, acknowledging that they should respect the opinions of others. Classrooms are safe places enabling pupils to explore personal religious, spiritual and philosophical convictions. The incorporation of local faith communities and visits to different places of worship, including the mosque and local temple, brings the subject to life. RE expresses the Church of England Statement of Entitlement and the school's vision abundantly.

Within this loving Christian community, all achieve and flourish exceptionally well. They are, indeed, empowered to live life in all its fullness.



The effectiveness of RE is Excellent

The high quality of teaching and learning, which is consistently better than good, leads to all pupils making excellent progress and obtaining above national averages. All teachers demonstrate creative approaches to pedagogy and highly skilled questioning techniques. Robust systems for assessment provide clear evidence, allowing the attainment of pupils to be monitored very effectively. Pupils are clear about the next steps to take, facilitating rapid progress. This contributes significantly to their high attainment in RE.

Executive Headteacher

Allan McLean

Inspector's name and number

Jenny Earp 288