

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Pott Shrigley Church School	
Address	Shrigley Road, Pott Shrigley, Macclesfield, SK10 5RT

School vision

We believe in an ethos of kindness which is underpinned by our Christian Values, specifically koinonia, compassion and respect. Our mission statement: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ, God forgave you Ephesians 4:32, is one we live out every day with children, staff, parents, governors, volunteers and other members of our school community.

School strengths

- Leaders know their community exceptionally well. The Christian vision and values run as a golden thread throughout the life of the school. This impacts positively on relationships leading to flourishing pupils and adults.
- The curriculum is tailored to meet the needs of all and is driven by the Christian vision. Leaders ensure vulnerable pupils and those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) are supported effectively. As a result, they succeed.
- Collective worship is engaging and welcoming. A highly effective partnership with the clergy and active pupil involvement significantly enhance this.
- Through effective leadership religious education (RE) is well developed and engaging. The curriculum encourages pupils to ask big questions. As a result, pupils demonstrate a deep understanding of Christianity and readily articulate their learning.
- Strong partnerships with the church, community and the diocese enhance the effectiveness of Pott Shrigley as a church school. These relationships enhance and support the school's on-going development.

Areas for development

- Secure and develop the biblical underpinning of the school's vision. This is to ensure that it is fully embedded and effectively drives the school forward.
- Develop a shared understanding of spirituality in school. Use this to deliver a range of rich and relevant experiences that nurture spiritual growth across the curriculum.
- Ensure the new RE curriculum is structured so pupils retain knowledge and understanding of world religions and world views over time.

Inspection findings

Pott Shrigley Church of England Primary School is at the heart of its community. The Christian vision is deeply rooted in the context of a small school that is continuing to grow. Leaders know and understand the families they serve exceptionally well. The strong sense of community is tangible where everyone feels a sense of belonging. The vision is expressed as three carefully chosen Christian values. The impact of this is evident in the strong sense of unity, compassion and respect.

Pupils, staff, parents and partners actively contribute to an inclusive atmosphere where these values are upheld. As a result, everyone can flourish because all are included and given equal opportunities to grow. The governing board knows the school well and is highly committed to its success. They are guided by the Christian vision in the bold decisions they make. Leaders have recently reviewed the vision. This continues to develop as numbers on roll increase. This means that a confident understanding of Jesus' example and teaching, to underpin the vision, is still in its infancy.

Pupils at Pott Shrigley have high aspirations. They are empowered to be the best they can be, driven by their values: respect, compassion and koinonia. Pupils enjoy a range of learning opportunities. This is enriched and made relevant with links to the wider world, whilst strengthened by real-life experiences. Bespoke provision for those with SEND ensures everyone has targeted interventions necessary for their learning. This support leads to flourishing by all. Enrichment activities are provided to widen their horizons and encourage the uniqueness of each individual. These include visits, forest school, sports competitions and musical opportunities. Pupils value and talk enthusiastically about these opportunities. Such wholehearted commitment is a deep expression of the Christian vision in action. Staff make time for reflection and encourage spiritual development in many lessons. However, a shared language for the exploration of spirituality is not yet developed. Opportunities within the curriculum are spontaneous rather than intentionally planned.

Worship is the highlight of the day for many at Pott Shrigley. Notably, all staff attend daily, reflecting on its importance and impact on their lives. Carefully planned worship reflects current events and the church calendar. It brings the Christian vision and the school's values to life. Consequently, pupils demonstrate these virtues in their daily actions and close relationships with those around them. All ages are invited to take part in worship by reading from the bible, lighting the Trinity candle or acting out bible stories. As a result, pupils and adults grow in their understanding of biblical teaching. Comprehensive evaluation leads to singing being joyous and central to all acts of worship. Moments of quiet spiritual reflection occur as all gather together. This is an important part of developing spirituality. To support this, each classroom has a reflective table that is age-appropriate and used as a focal point for prayer. Local clergy take an active role in worship. This strong and effective relationship enhances the pupils' knowledge of Anglican traditions. It has a significant impact on the quality of collective worship. Parents and the local community enjoy the chance to worship together each term and at times of special celebration such as Christmas. All value these special times when they come together as one.

Relationships within Pott Shrigley are exceptionally strong. On entering the school, pupils step into an atmosphere of calm that is positive and supportive. As a result, they are empowered to flourish. They show their love and care for each other throughout the day. Pupils know that things sometimes go wrong but understand how to reflect and move on. Adults address any issues with a deep sense of understanding and forgiveness. Parents are overwhelmingly positive. They value how well staff know and treat everyone as an individual. This inclusivity is attributed to the Christian vision and values. Caring for mental health and emotional needs is intrinsic to the life of the school. Leaders place a high priority on the well-being of all as a way of living out the words of the vision. Staff value, strong bonds that exist across the team - where the 'school is a loving family' and the 'building a home'. This results in excellent relationships and high morale.

Leaders create meaningful connections with other Church schools that encourage spiritual flourishing together. Staff take advantage of diocesan training. This supports the professional development of staff and impacts positively on the school. The partnership with St Christopher's Church is exemplary. The clergy is an integral and valued part of school life. Pupils enjoy the opportunity to worship and learn in the local church. They describe how this is enjoyable to be part of and also helps them to remember the stories. Pupils know about their responsibility to the outside world and are developing an awareness of the needs of others. They support a variety of

organisations. One notable example is the school and church joining to support a pupil in raising funds for cows in Africa. Further opportunities to engage with the wider community exist in the recent partnership with a residential care home. Here pupils live out their Christian values to impact positively on people's lives.

RE has a high status in school. Teaching is engaging, with a variety of activities being used to stimulate thoughts and ask big questions. The use of props to enact Bible stories for younger children encourages questioning. As a result, pupils enjoy and flourish in RE. In-depth monitoring and evaluation confirm that teaching is of high quality. Sequenced and coherent plans ensure a comprehensive understanding of Christianity. Pupils demonstrate good biblical knowledge and are aware of the impact worldwide. However, the syllabus structure does not enable a deep understanding of world religions and worldviews long-term. Thus, many mix up religious celebrations, traditions and key beliefs. The assessment is well-planned and thorough. It is targeted to ensure that all pupils understand what is being taught. It also reinforces learning for those who do not fully comprehend it.

Everyone in this small school community is valued, included and cherished. Pupils and adults embody the purpose of learning and flourishing together.

The inspection findings indicate that Pott Shrigley Church of England VA Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	14 March 2024	URN	111462
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll	35
Diocese	Chester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Anne-Marie Willis		
Chair	Jane Langdon		
Inspector	Pam Hartley	No.	941