Statutory Inspection of Anglican & Methodist Schools

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Newick Church of England Primary School

Vision

'Be courageous, be strong;
Do everything in love.'
1 Corinthians, 16.

Teaching our pupils the four WICK values enables them to carry the flame of love and shine bright in all they do.

Wisdom, Independence, Creativity, Kindness

Newick Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish. It has the following notable strengths.

Strengths

- The Christian vision is embedded and understood by the school community. It is evident in its daily life enabling it to be ambitious and relentless in its drive for success.
- Relationships are strong. This results in a deep understanding of the academic, social and emotional needs of pupils. In this way pupils have strong support allowing them to develop resilience and grow in confidence.
- The rich curriculum, comprehensive range of extra-curricular opportunities and well planned and structured collective worship are thoughtfully complementary. This cohesive approach supports personal growth, reflection, and a deep sense of purpose, leading to spiritual flourishing.
- Thoughtful provision and resourcing means that pupils who are vulnerable and those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) succeed. This is because the care and nurture of these pupils is prioritised.
- Religious education (RE) is effectively led. It makes a strong contribution to how well pupils flourish. The RE curriculum has clear aims and a logical structure, enabling pupils to broaden their knowledge and deepen their understanding.

Development Points

- Extend pupils' understanding of justice. This is in order to enable them to challenge injustice in a wider range of meaningful ways.

Inspection Findings

Newick Church of England Primary School is a happy and welcoming community. The Christian vision can be seen, heard and felt in every part of the school. The main expression of the vision is through the WICK values that are well established in the life and language of the school. These are deeply understood by the school community, binding the school together in a strong bond of love and respect. These values consistently underpin interactions and behaviour and complement the vision. This creates an environment with a distinct shared identity, drawing staff and pupils around a common purpose. Parents recognise the impact of this and how their children thrive in the school's caring and nurturing culture. Successful relationships with the Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust and partnerships with Chichester Diocese and the local church enrich the school. Robust monitoring provided by governors ensures challenge and support. As a result, the school stands firm in its Church foundations and serves its community with ambition and love. School leaders explore Bible stories linked to school values ensuring that the vision is biblically understood.

Leaders and governors are ambitious for every pupil. Consequently, staff have crafted a rich and varied curriculum to meets the needs of pupils. Learning is adapted effectively. In this way pupils, including vulnerable and disadvantaged learners, are given the best chance to achieve and so make progress. A comprehensive and wide range of extra-curricular activities are prioritised. These include goblin car engineering, a variety of sports, gardening, cooking, art, and choir. In this way, pupils are given additional opportunities to expand their interests and discover their talents. For example, inter-generational opera, where the children sing opera with residents of the local community. Spiritual development is a high priority, times for reflection and for stillness are interlinked with learning activities. Reflection areas in each class, together with a newly opened spiritual garden, provide inspiration for those moments. These, together with the shared and well understood 'look in', 'look out' and 'look up' approach develop spiritual awareness. As a result, pupils are confident in discussing their thoughts and beliefs, so strengthening their spirituality.

Collective worship is valued as a time where everyone is invited to come and share together. It is meticulously planned to incorporate Christian values, key festivals in the church calendar and wider social and cultural events. The message of God's presence and help is central. Leaders ensure times of song, prayer, reflection and discussion, thus offering different approaches to worship. Parents and carers are regularly welcomed to worship as part of the school family. The local church works closely with staff and pupils in school. Regular visits from local clergy have a positive and lasting impact. Regular services held by the school at the local church are well attended and parents appreciate the opportunities for pupils to take part in the services. A recent open air service to open the spiritual garden helped to reinforce spirituality. The vision has a strong impact which can be seen in the way that even the very youngest pupils speak with confidence.

Relationships within the school, driven by the school's vision and values, are exceptionally strong. There is a calm and caring atmosphere. People are accepted for who they are, which enables an environment where all are treated well. There is an overwhelming sense of being enveloped in Christian love. Attendance is high. Despite having a low proportion of pupils from other faiths or ethnicities, the school is highly inclusive. All views are welcomed. As a result, pupils have a secure understanding that they can raise concerns with staff. They show strong self-awareness. Pupils care about their peers and are consistently polite and respectful towards each other and adults in school. Staff wellbeing is of the utmost importance. They value the strong, principled leadership that they are given. They

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particularly mention the compassionate way in which requests for personal help are treated. Staff development is of the highest priority. As a result, staff feel fully supported and turnover is very low indeed.

Pupils prosper through varied leadership roles which encourage them to look beyond their own needs. The range of responsibilities and roles provided develops confidence and respect. Faith council, play leaders, school councillors, and peer mediators take pride in their work to support others in the school. They have aspiration and hope for the future, trying new things with enthusiasm. Pupils are made aware of social injustice through the focus on diversity and justice in the curriculum. For instance, they help a number of charities by taking part in fundraising events including global charities such as supporting the leprosy mission. Donations from the harvest festival go to local food banks. However, opportunities for tackling injustice beyond raising money are not clearly articulated by pupils.

RE is well-planned, sequenced and enthusiastically led by the RE leader and reflects the school's vision. Through the carefully planned curriculum, pupils are introduced to world religions and enjoy comparing beliefs and practices of different faiths. RE is monitored carefully and pupil voice considered forming a focus for professional development. Pupils speak enthusiastically about RE, how it helps you know and share different faiths and how everyone has an opinion which should be respected. As they grow older, they come to develop their understanding of Christianity as a global world faith. They articulate the importance of learning about worldviews. Strong links with the local diocese ensure the RE leader accesses current relevant training, which is cascaded to all staff. Pupils' apply their learning to their own lives and to the vision of the school.

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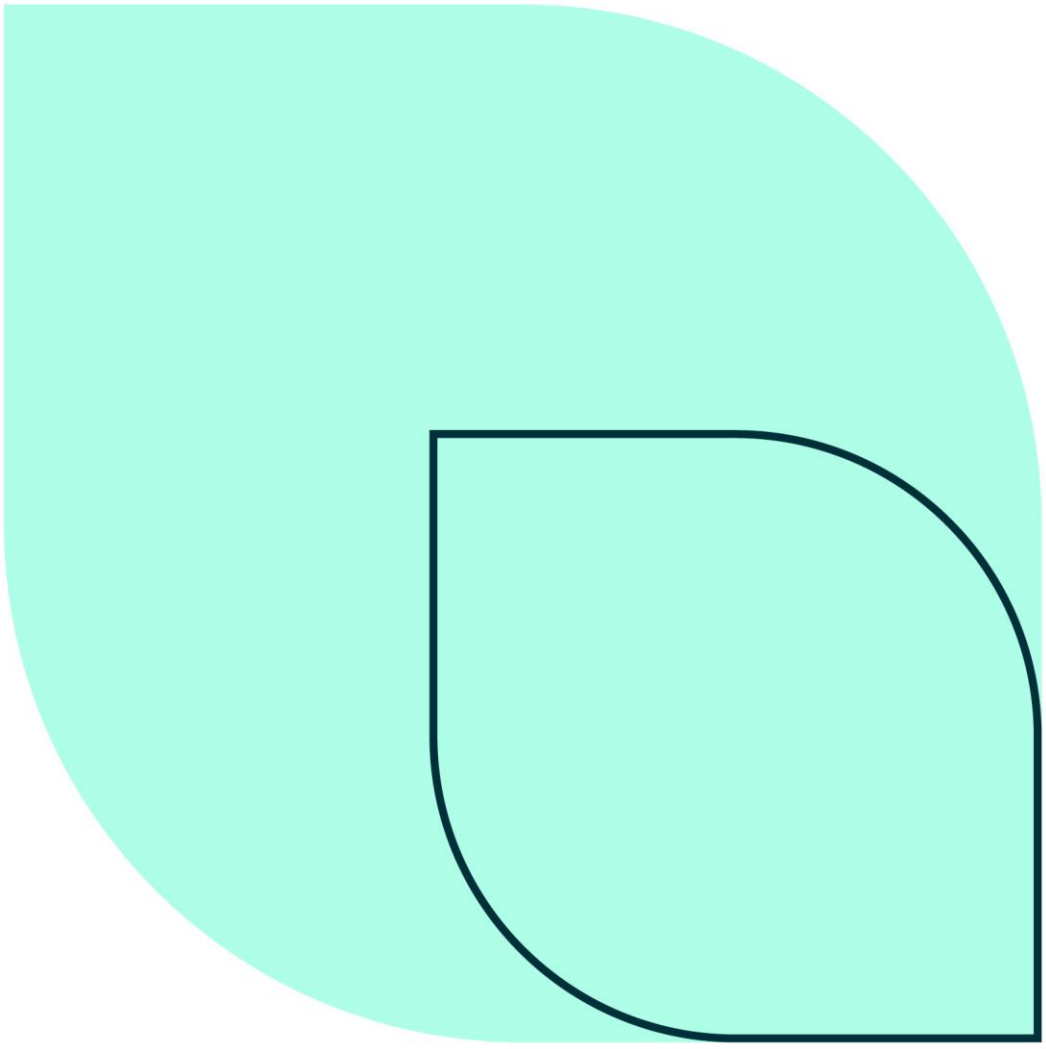
Information

Address	63 Allington Road, Newick, Lewes, East Sussex, BN8 4NB		
Date	30 April 2025	URN	150391
Type of school	Voluntary Controlled	No. of pupils	208
Diocese	Chichester		
MAT	Diocese of Chichester Academy Trust		
Headteacher	Faye Lawrence		
Chair of Governors	Jonathan Sharpe		
Inspector	Anthony Cosans