

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Bengeworth Church of England Academy, Evesham					
Address	Kings Road, Evesham, WR11 3EU				

School vision

At Bengeworth, we live out a promise to continually learn, improve our world and better ourselves by applying Christian values through our actions each and every day. Our values guide our choices as we learn and prepare us for the journey beyond our school, into our future.

When the rainbow appears in the clouds... I will remember the promise that continues forever. It is between me and every living thing on the earth."

Genesis 9:16

School strengths

- The Christian vision is the bedrock of this highly inclusive community. It is lived out through the values in everything that the school undertakes. As a result pupils and adults are flourishing.
- Relationships within the school are excellent. The centrality of the vision ensures that the unique talents of all are recognised and celebrated. Wellbeing of all is a high priority and there is an overwhelming sense of Christian love. Everyone is treated kindly and no request is seen as too difficult to consider.
- Inspirational pupil leadership groups empower them to be courageous agents of change. They have a powerful voice in the strategic direction of the school.
- Spiritual development is an integral part of ambitious learning experiences that ensure pupils are thoughtful, confident and articulate. It prepares them to leave Bengeworth as aspirational global citizens.
- Exciting religious education (RE) lessons result in pupils thinking deeply about theological issues. Strong subject leadership supports high standards. Both pupils and adults are passionate about RE.

Areas for development

- Extend opportunities for a wide range of stakeholders to be involved in the monitoring of collective worship. This is to enable a deeper understanding of the provision's impact.
- Work in partnership with the diocese to share the exemplary practice at Bengeworth in order to support other church school's development.

Inspection findings

The Christian vision and underpinning values are the bedrock of this school. All members of the community, including the pupils are invested in the journey of its development. It inexorably draws school, church, home and community into one deeply caring family. Everyone lives out a promise to continually learn, improve the world and better themselves. Each class makes a bespoke promise which is referred to throughout the academic year. Leaders at all levels show total commitment to



driving forward the school with passion and focus. Governors have a deep and thorough knowledge of the school. They provide effective challenge and support. Life at Bengeworth has a lasting impact. Pupils stand out as being resilient, grounded and well-mannered.

The school's Christian vision inspires the changing of lives for the better. This is evident through the bold decisions made by leaders and governors. All staff expertly articulate the vision and how it drives all of their work. It is so embedded that the impact is transformative and extraordinary. Consequently, everyone, including those pupils deemed to be vulnerable, are deeply cherished and flourish spiritually.

Aspirations are high and all, including the most able, are challenged to excel in all things. As a result, pupils show a thirst for learning and are excited by their school day. They make progress socially, emotionally, spiritually and academically. A carefully considered globally themed curriculum recognises the need for pupils to be 'forward looking'. It is constantly adapted to meet the specific needs of the pupils. Spirituality and character education along with the vision and values are skilfully woven through the curriculum. The school has a well developed understanding of and approach to spiritual growth. Effective opportunities are mapped out, enabling pupils to ask big questions and explore spiritual and ethical issues. Further spontaneous opportunities create rich spiritual experiences within a culture of deep reflection. There are a wealth of clubs and extracurricular opportunities which are available for all pupils. These develop confidence, engender self-belief and broaden horizons. The holistic development of each child is of high importance to leaders and staff.

The highly inclusive and enjoyable collective worship makes a significant difference to the lives of all. It is invitational, inspirational and thought-provoking. It is valued by all as a time of calm and reflection. Worship is planned and delivered with an effective balance of pupil and adult involvement. As a result, it is interactive, with high levels of engagement. Joyful singing significantly enhances the experience. The school's core Christian values underpin the themes throughout the year. There is a rich culture of prayer and reflection. This supports valued times of stillness and deep thinking, aiding personal spiritual development. Pupils are involved in evaluating worship, however monitoring by other stakeholders is underdeveloped.

Effective partnerships, reflecting the strong Christian vision, are central to the flourishing of the school and the wider community. Leaders' unwavering commitment to inclusion is reflected through their collaboration with wider professionals and their outreach work. School expertise is regularly seconded to the local authority with Bengeworth being a flagship school for inclusion. The impact of this work can be seen in the school's highly inclusive ethos. Staff are passionate about wanting every child to achieve and celebrate each forward step. They understand and care for every pupil. As a result, staff know just how much to challenge and support pupils in their learning. Love and high-quality teaching go hand in hand. All staff feel valued personally and professionally. They are trusted to use their unique talents and gifts to provide innovative learning opportunities that ignite curiosity. The school invests in high quality training, including courses with the Diocese of Worcester. Staff retention is high. Leaders work relentlessly to respond to the specific needs of pupils and families. Relationships across the school community are exceptionally strong and behaviour is exemplary. Bengeworth is where everyone 'promises to go to the ends of the earth for each other'.

The school's Christian vision creates a culture of high expectations with exemplary levels of pupil leadership and active participation. These roles embody the vision and its central value of love. Pupil leaders are highly respected and admired as inspirational role models. Their voice is central to the school's decision making process. They relish being consulted and know that their ideas and opinions count. Every half term pupil leaders attend a governor meeting to share their goals and



progress towards them. Consequently, their hopes and aspirations influence the school's improvement. They advocate and lead change. This is evident from within school outwards into the community. Pupil's actions are making a difference by challenging injustice. Following a visit from a refugee, pupils independently responded by sending food and clothing parcels out to Ukraine. Mental health leaders realised that a calm space was needed in the playground. They successfully set about raising funds for a reading shed through a cake and chat morning. Eco leaders have introduced compost bins in each classroom.

RE is taught with passion across the school. Leaders significant subject knowledge ensures high-quality provision that securely reflects the Church of England Statement of Entitlement. Pupils learn exceptionally well because the curriculum promotes enquiry and deep thinking. An environment has been created in which pupils feel safe to explore and discuss religious concepts through answering big questions. They recognise the value of RE and are respectful of different views. Pupils take pride in their work and love to reflect on what has been taught. Teachers skilfully weave RE into other subjects, meaning there are increased opportunities to deepen knowledge and skills. A rigorous programme of effective monitoring and evaluation secures strong practice.

All stakeholders are rightly proud of their school. They strive to enrich the lives of everyone, enabling them to flourish within an aspirational, inclusive and loving learning community. Genesis 9:16 is living and breathing throughout the whole school community. Pupils are given the best possible foundations they need at Bengeworth to be well equipped for their future.

The inspection findings indicate that the school is living up to its foundation as a Church school, and is enabling pupils and adults to flourish.

Information						
Inspection date	26 September 2023	URN		140932		
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on ro	ll	558		
Diocese	Worcester					
MAT/Federation	Bengeworth MAT					
Headteacher	Mrs Hayley Potter, Mrs Kirsty Shaw (Head of School)					
Chair	Andrew Martyr-Icke					
Inspector	Kerry Geddis	No.	95	5		