

## Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

### Otley All Saints Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Lisker Drive Otley LS21 1DF	
<b>Current SIAMS inspection grade</b>	<b>Good</b>
<b>Diocese</b>	<b>Leeds</b>
Previous SIAS inspection grade	Good
Local authority	Leeds
Name of multi-academy trust	n/a
Date of inspection	9 March 2018
Date of last inspection	22 May 2013
Type of school and unique reference number	133555
Headteacher	Ian Thomson-Smith
Inspector's name and number	Angela Knowles 497

#### School context

Otley All Saints Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School is an average-sized school situated towards the south-east of Otley. The school is a one-form entry school with 249 pupils on roll. Nursery provision is accessed by most children through the school nursery. The majority of pupils are broadly in line with national expectations when they are assessed on entry to the Reception class. Standards across school at key points are well above the national averages. Almost all pupils speak English as their first language. 5.6% of pupils are eligible for pupil premium funding which is much lower than the national average of 24%. The proportion of pupils with SEND is below national averages (16%) with 2 pupils receiving extra funding to meet their needs. Since the last inspection, staffing has remained stable. Attendance for 2015-16 is above the national average at 97.1%.

#### The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Otley All Saints as a Church of England school are good

- The Christian ethos of the school is underpinned by a clear focus on the school's shared Christian vision and values.
- The excellent behaviour of the pupils, which stems from the mutual respect and care they have for each other, is underpinned by school's Christian values.
- Effective relationship between the school, the local community and the parish.
- The Christian care and concern shown by the school family for each other and for those who need their support across the world.

#### Areas to improve

- Evidence the impact of the chosen Christian values in all aspects of school life.
- Develop the monitoring and evaluation of worship further to include the whole worshipping community and evidence the impact of that worship.
- To ensure that the leadership and management of the school support the development of RE by providing opportunity for the subject leader to evaluate subject specific quality and standards. This is to ensure there is challenge for the more able to extend their understanding of the topics in RE and develop higher order thinking skills.

### **The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is good at meeting the needs of all learners**

The clear Christian vision and values of Otley All Saints School underpin its Christian ethos. To address the focus for development from the last inspection around making the school's Christian aims and values more explicit, all members of the school community have worked together to identify and adopt six core Christian values. The six values of love, forgiveness, faith, courage, honesty and respect, spring from Mark 12:29-39 "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and all your soul ... The second is this: You shall love your neighbour as yourself." The links between text and values are very clear on the school website and in documentation. The clear Christian values of the school are bringing together its Christian foundation and the long established and highly effective local and global charitable initiatives as school works through a different value every half term. Because of this recent work the Christian distinctiveness of the school is becoming more understood, embedded and valued by the whole school community. Relationships at every level are positive. The parents and pupils spoken with were proud to be part of the school family and talked of the importance of its Christian ethos. Areas inside each classroom and in shared spaces around school are explicitly linked to the Christian value being focused on, with the older pupils showing links between the four half termly values now covered. However, the impact of the Christian values, which have been the focus in worship for four terms of the six term cycle, need to be evidenced further.

The school leaders are working hard to provide the pupils with a consistently good education, with outcomes being well above the national averages and improving. The Christian ethos of the school encourages pupils to be eager and enthusiastic learners. Pupils' achievements are celebrated at every opportunity, with pupils speaking about how they try hard both in lessons, in the way they care about each other and for people in less fortunate circumstances than themselves around the world. One of the most thought provoking events for the pupils was when a number of asylum seeker young people visited the school, led worship and spoke about why they had to leave their homes and their journey to where they are now.

The locally agreed syllabus for RE is used consistently across school. RE is delivered by the subject leader and other staff during PPA time, thus ensuring appropriate time is given to the subject and that the school meets statutory requirements. Pupils' work shows progression across school in line with other subjects. The evaluation of the quality and standards in RE is part of the reviewing cycle of all subjects and senior leaders regularly the quality of teaching and learning. Pupils speak knowledgeably about other faiths and are able to give many examples of what they had learnt from their studies.

Attendance is above national average and, because of the school's Christian ethos, is monitored closely with support offered to families when appropriate. Pupils behave well, supported by the consistent implementation of the behaviour policy which is clearly linked to the school's Christian values.

### **The impact of collective worship on the school community is good**

The daily act of collective worship is central to the life of the school. It is planned well and the weekly themes have been reviewed for the beginning of this school year to reflect the Christian values identified and adopted by the school. There are six values identified to use throughout the school year. This focus on a different Christian value each half term is ensuring they are shared by all and consistently embedded into practice across the whole school. The impact of this focus has yet to be fully evaluated but there are already signs that this is happening. Pupils speak knowledgeably about the Christian values covered and can give many examples linked to themselves and those around them. Pupils spoken with articulately reflected on experiences from throughout their school life, including their work as a Global school and with the many charities supported. They make clear links to the Christian values of love and faith.

Collective worship is led by many members of staff, visitors and parish clergy. The Open the Book team are regular visitors and led the act of worship observed during the inspection. They support school's focus on Biblical teaching. From the last inspection school were asked to review the purpose of collective worship and ensure the space for worship provides an inspirational environment to support personal response and spiritual growth. The most recent work to address this has been through the Christian values work. Themes for worship are reflected on a focus table and on thought provoking displays in the hall. Themes are focused around the adopted Christian values, the liturgical year and explore the person of Jesus Christ, God as Father and Holy Spirit. Pupils speak confidently, in an age appropriate way, about the Trinitarian nature of Christianity. The liturgical calendar is reflected on a display and Christ's journey to the cross is being followed daily through Lent with children adding their finger prints to stones leading to the cross.

Collective worship is coordinated by the head teacher supported by the Collective Worship Council. The parents and pupils value the opportunities to worship together and take part in services in church at important points in the liturgical calendar, for example at Christmas and Easter. The monitoring and evaluation of worship now needs to be developed further. There is feedback from pupils which needs to include other worshippers and include more evaluative judgements which evidence the impact of worship in the lives of everyone. Pupils enjoy taking part in the

leadership of the worship and most of the worshippers responded well joining in responsive prayers and singing. Pupils could make clear links between their own behaviours and the Christian values covered during worship.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is good**

The Christian distinctiveness of Otley All Saints as a Church of England school is explicit. The head teacher and governors have worked hard to identify an agreed set of Christian values. These values have begun to run through every part of the school's life drawing together the excellent work the school has done for many years holding such things as the Eco Schools Green Flag, being a Fairtrade Achiever school and being accredited as an Expert Centre for the Global Learning Programme. The school website articulates the vision and the values of the school and ensures that this school is clear about its church school status.

Governors are as active as possible linking with classes and visiting school regularly so that they can see the impact of their strategic decisions. Christian distinctiveness has been a recent focus for monitoring visits following the implementation of the adopted Christian values. The school's Christian distinctiveness is highlighted during the recruitment of new staff.

Senior leaders ensure the school is an integral part of the community living out their focus on Christian values supporting many local and global charities.

Links with the church and its clergy are strong, valued and have a significant impact in school. Foundation governors also strengthen these links holding many joint events across the year.

Academic standards in school are well above national average but the leaders are not complacent and know there is still much to be done to ensure everyone reaches their full potential. They work hard to improve outcomes for pupils, supported by the school's clear Christian values and ethos.

The leadership of collective worship and RE ensures statutory requirements are met; self-evaluation informs future planning. Staff development within staff meetings has ensured that the scheme for RE is in place and followed, making the teaching of RE progressive and consistent across school.

The head teacher is seconded to the Diocese of Leeds as an Associate Adviser for two days each week which helps to link school with the wider church schools network giving opportunities to share good practice.

The school sees itself very much as a Christian family where the personal, social, health and social responsibility is of the highest importance and is of a high standard. The pastoral care of the whole school family is rooted in Christian love. The pupils have opportunities to influence leadership decisions, for example through the school council and the collective worship council.

Parental links are very strong with an active PTA who sold the pupils' gifts for Mothering Sunday during the inspection. Parents feel welcome and comfortable to approach staff with any concerns. All members of the school family are positive about the school.

The school meets the statutory requirements for religious education and collective worship.

SIAMS report March 2018 Otley All Saints Church of England VC Primary School Otley LS21 1DF