

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Edenfield Church of England VC Primary School	
Address	Market Street, Edenfield, Ramsbottom, BL0 0HL
School vision	
Guided by God, following in his footsteps Our vision is theologically centred on Psalm 119:105 Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light on my path	
School strengths	
• Collective worship is the central piece in the 'Edenfield jigsaw', securing the deeply Christian vision at the heart of the school. Adults as well as pupils value this joyous daily opportunity to come together and grow spiritually. • Well informed, highly committed governors, together with school leaders, explicitly evaluate the impact of the Christian vision on provision for pupils. This underpins every decision they make, enabling pupils and adults to bloom. • Strong, trusting relationships between all members of the school community create an ethos where everyone is welcomed and truly valued as they are. This ensures that they thrive. • Pupil behaviour is exemplary. They unerringly use the school's core Christian values to guide the choices that they make, supporting each other to succeed. • Spiritual development and reflection opportunities thread through a challenging, engaging curriculum. This lights pupils' pathway to a successful life beyond primary school.	
Areas for development	
• Ensure pupils continue to flourish in religious education (RE) through the enhanced balance of worldviews and religions included in the new syllabus. • Embed the school's work on equality learning. This is to expand pupils' understanding and role as ambassadors for a better, more equitable society in a diverse world.	
Inspection findings	
Edenfield Church of England Primary School stands as a beacon, lighting a pathway to success for pupils and adults alike. Links between the church and school are particularly strong. Pupils benefit from visitors in school and from taking part in the many services in church. Parents value these opportunities. Their regard for the school and all it provides daily for their children is highly positive. The relationship with parents is just one of the many strengths at this Church school. It leads to pupils flourishing, welcomed and celebrated for their uniqueness. Behaviour is exemplary throughout school. Pupils are clear that Christian values 'make us want to treat each other how we would like to be treated'. They appreciate that life holds challenges, and draw on their own developing faith, firm friendships or trusted staff for support. There is a keen focus on good mental health across school. A 'mindfulness club' provides a time at the end of the school day to promote	

wellbeing. Year 6 pupils help Reception 'buddies' with their learning and clearly describe how they promote good behaviour. In their pairs, both flourish as they grow personally, socially and emotionally, reflecting the Christian vision.

Collective worship truly forms the heartbeat of school life. It is a safe, welcoming space to fully explore the school's vision and core values. Volunteer 'VIP prayer writers' are adept in encapsulating the themes discussed. They proudly share these thoughtful, insightful prayers near the end of worship. Pupils eagerly engage with every aspect of this time to come together, responding to deep questions in a considered way. Many sing joyfully and know the school prayers well, saying them with conviction. Pupils from all year groups can give examples of how they grow spiritually through opportunities in worship and the curriculum. They clearly identify their own favourite times for reflection, often citing their sense of awe about being out in nature. Pupils and adults experience considerable spiritual growth through the many opportunities provided. Knowing also that they are loved, respected and celebrated for who they are, is an intrinsic part of school life. This enhances spiritual development because it builds their sense of self.

Knowledgeable, committed governors regularly monitor aspects of school, including RE and collective worship. Their evaluations give them a thorough insight into the Christian vision in action in their school, which informs decisions and plans. They are clear that at this Church school, academic learning is only one of several aspirations for the pupils in their care. This drives leaders to deliver the skills, attitudes and character development that pupils need to succeed in the wider world. School leaders prioritise the professional development of staff so that they are fully equipped to provide for their pupils. This encourages adults on their career pathway in line with the Christian vision. The school has a close relationship with the diocese, which allows them to access appropriate staff training. Staff feel part of a family at Edenfield. They grow professionally through the trusting relationships they have with colleagues, including leaders. Their spiritual growth is assured because they 'feel seen', their 'personalities are celebrated' and they state that, 'I know I'm valued.' Staff support and nurture pupils, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. They become role models for pupils, who replicate this care and respect with their peers.

Pupils find the school curriculum challenging and engaging. They love to learn and are proud of what they achieve. They know that getting things wrong helps them to learn, recognising that you learn from your mistakes. This gives them the confidence to try anything and they thrive on it. The school plans carefully to enable pupils to experience a range of learning beyond the purely academic. There is a diverse extra-curricular offer, which allows pupils to explore their talents, including horse riding and skiing. An array of visitors and visits, including to a range of places of worship, further enhances their learning. The curriculum incorporates everything leaders have identified as important in their mission to set pupils feet on a successful pathway. There are many chances to develop leadership skills, which extend pupils' emotional and spiritual growth. Through 'inspire club', pupils write and share inspirational, affirming messages, to support good mental health across the school. Year 1 and 5 take part in young leaders' projects to develop an understanding of injustice. They widen their impact as agents of change beyond school when they promote a community foodbank. An active school council gives pupils the chance to lead aspects of school. Pupil 'ethos champions' are thriving as they help to develop the school's approach to teaching pupils about equality and diversity. Whatever pupils' personalities, talents or interests, they blossom, as they are actively encouraged to take on responsibilities.

RE is an extremely popular, inspiring subject with a high profile in the school. This is due to effective subject leadership and an ambitious, well-planned curriculum, which includes deep, thought-provoking questions. Leaders enhance the existing curriculum through carefully planned activities during 'multi-faith week'. The newly adopted syllabus deepens this learning. RE provides a safe space where pupils critically reflect on their own and others' views. They find different religions

fascinating, particularly how it guides the choices a person makes. High quality training from the subject leader and diocese enables teachers to develop pupils' thinking about deep religious questions. Monitoring and evaluation, including by governors, is regular and robust, underpinning actions that lead to pupils flourishing in RE.

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

Information			
Inspection date	25 June 2024	URN	119385
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary controlled	Pupils on roll	196
Diocese	Manchester		
MAT/Federation			
Headteacher	Charlotte Garner		
Chair	Barbara Dewar		
Inspector	Melanie Barratt	No.	2104