

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Holsworthy Church of England Primary School

Vision

Working together, growing together, all to flourish.

Our vision's theological underpinning: 'God is the vine; God is love' draws on Jesus' words: 'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit.' (John 15:5).

Holsworthy 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.

Notable Strengths

- The school's Christian vision, rooted in John 15:5, instils a strong sense of togetherness. It flows throughout the school's work, inspiring the compassionate decisions made by leaders, including governors.
- Built on love, the vision creates an ethos in which pupils and adults learn and grow together. This results in a happy, welcoming and inclusive environment where people are valued as unique individuals.
- Committed leaders work tirelessly in their calling to serve the school community. Tailored provision is a hallmark of the school and leads to the needs of pupils and adults being met with kindness.
- Caring relationships, underpinned by the vision and values, permeate the school. As a result, people look out for one another, supporting 'all to flourish'. This is enhanced by a thriving partnership with local churches.
- Enrichment activities, such as clubs, school visits and lunchtime activities, nurture pupils' spiritual development. As such, pupils experience joy and wonder, growing their relationship with self and others.

Development Points

- Develop spoken activities through the religious education (RE) curriculum. This is to deepen pupils' ways of thinking and enrich their self-expression when exploring religious and non-religious worldviews.
- Enhance opportunities for pupils to take greater ownership in addressing issues of injustice. This is to develop their skills as active citizens within and beyond their local community.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

The school's Christian vision is embedded with 'working together, growing together, all to flourish' at the heart of school life. Humble leaders drive the vision, establishing a welcoming environment where people thrive. Their change-making decisions are rooted in love, resulting in personalised approaches that nurture all-round growth. The school's behaviour policy cherishes pupils as precious children of God. It provides thoughtful strategies that respond compassionately to pupils' needs. In turn, pupils and adults develop strong relationships, equipping them to flourish together. This vision-inspired ethos permeates the school. It is reflected in governors' work and the ways that staff care for pupils. As a result, the school is well regarded as a happy place. Upheld by the school's values, the compelling vision responds to the school community, nurturing aspirations and providing a breadth of support. Chosen by pupils and adults, the school's value of grit, understood as resilience and bravery, serves as a reminder of working together. This means that people's needs are met with relentless kindness, particularly in times of adversity. The impactful vision, robustly monitored and evaluated by leaders, champions and enriches people's lives.

Vision and Curriculum

Pupils experience joy at Holsworthy. Lunchtime activities spark happiness and creativity, bringing pupils together. This is because leaders implement change, shaped by the vision. Consequently, lunchtime provision responds to a vast range of interests, igniting the school's value of love. Enrichment activities, such as school clubs and visits, are central to the vision in action. They help pupils develop their confidence and grow their character. Residential visits provide a sense of adventure, enabling pupils to experience life beyond their local community. The curriculum supports pupils to learn about the wider world, encouraging their sense of care. This is because the school's approach to spirituality is woven through the curriculum, inviting pupils to reflect on themselves and others. Ambitious leaders are committed to strengthening these opportunities for spiritual growth. Pupils' individual needs are met with an abundance of care and understanding. Therefore, pupils, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) are supported to flourish. Thoughtful adaptations, such as personalised work spaces, enable pupils to thrive. Classrooms are alive with talk activities, instilling a culture where pupils support and encourage one another.

Worship and Spirituality

Fondly regarded as a 'time to breathe,' worship creates a welcoming space for pupils and adults to grow spiritually. It is a special time of togetherness, forming a safe environment to reflect, share and celebrate. Vision-inspired, the thoughtful and varied worship schedule fosters spiritual flourishing. Class worship supports pupils to explore key themes as a close-knit community and develop confidence in expressing personal reflections. Celebration worship is inspiring. It motivates pupils with illustrations of their values in action. Furthermore, pupils and adults use this time to praise the lives of individuals, sharing uplifting words of affirmation. This creates a deeply spiritual atmosphere. Worship is enriched by the relationship with local churches, instilling a strong sense of welcome. Volunteers and clergy bring Bible stories to life, equipping pupils to make links to the values. Pupils embrace their leadership of church services, such as Harvest. Their joyful songs and considerate prayers bring people together, enriching opportunities for spiritual growth. Leaders are highly reflective when considering the impact that worship has on people's lives. This results in changes that enable pupils and adults to flourish spiritually.

Vision and School Culture

Pupils and adults are regarded as unique individuals. This is evidenced through caring relationships that flow throughout the school. A pupil expressed this as, 'we accept everyone for who they are.' This means that pupils and their families are welcomed with love and understanding. The strong culture of inclusion is a hallmark of the school. Comforting environments, like the orchard classroom and outdoor spaces, support pupils who have SEND. This inspiring provision enables them to excel in their personal growth and learning. Compassionate leaders, including governors, prioritise wellbeing. This means that people's lives lie at the heart of decision-making. The school's free breakfast club exemplifies this and enhances all-round flourishing. Furthermore, a strong partnership is maintained with mental health professionals, resulting in bespoke support for pupils and their families. Loving relationships are established from the outset. Pupils in their first



few days of Reception receive a hand-knitted teddy bear, gifted by the church community. They replicate this warm welcome in their heartwarming interactions with others. Alongside kind, thoughtful staff, pupils model the values, sustaining a strong culture of living well together. As a result, a calm feeling spreads throughout the school.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Helpful and caring pupils exemplify the school's value of respect. Older pupils show kindness towards younger pupils, embracing their mentor responsibilities and play leader roles. Driven by the vision, pupils develop empathy for local and global issues, energising their sense of responsibility. Learning about the ocean motivates pupils to take action locally by litter picking. Independent actions are recognised through a special award, inspiring pupils to 'make a difference' beyond the school community. Valuable examples are recalled by pupils, guiding them to become changemakers. Pupils' opinions are important. Consequently, members of the flourishing voices council take pride in being 'the voice' of their peers. They bring fresh perspectives, helping leaders make decisions that impact positively on people's lives. Fundraising equips pupils to learn about the needs of people around the world. This helps to grow their understanding of injustice. As such, they are proud to sponsor a child to attend school. However, pupils have fewer opportunities to initiate and advocate for such projects. This impacts on their personal sense of responsibility in championing injustice.

Religious Education

Thoughtful RE leadership results in a well-balanced, relevant curriculum. This enables pupils to look beyond their local community and understand a range of religious and non-religious worldviews. Consequently, pupils regard RE as an important subject. Guided by the vision, RE is creative and engaging. It enables pupils to work and grow together. Talk activities are central to well-sequenced learning, equipping pupils to explore and share their views and reflections. However, some opportunities for extending pupils' thinking are missed. This impacts the depth to which they consider and express their own worldviews. The vision-focused curriculum invites pupils to actively engage with a range of visitors. This includes a Hindu dance workshop, helping pupils learn about Diwali. As a result, pupils are respectful citizens, appreciating that there are different ways of thinking and believing. Pupils have a strong understanding of Christianity as a global faith, guiding them to personally consider what Jesus is like to them. The RE leader attends regular training, resulting in an ever-developing learning experience that responds to pupils' needs. As such, pupils describe RE as fun and interesting.

Information

Address	Sanders Lane, Holsworthy, Devon, EX22 6HD		
Date	23 September 2026	URN	113379
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	319
Diocese	Exeter		
Headteacher	Amy Symons		
Chair of Governors	Tracey Webster		
Inspector	Carmella Reece		