

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

<b>Tydd St Mary Church of England VA Primary School</b>	
Address	Churchway, Tydd St Mary, Wisbech, PE13 5QY
School vision	
<p>Together with God on a voyage of discovery and opportunity – Sharing, Aspirations, Inspiring, Learners.</p> <p>We can all flourish and 'have life and have it to the full', as we travel together with God on our voyage of discovery and opportunity.</p> <p>We foster a caring environment, promoting dignity, consideration, appreciation of others, 'letting all that we do be done in love'.</p> <p>Through shared aspirations we seek 'to give hope and a future', inspiring all to be the best that they can and fulfil their potential; striving for excellence.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults and pupils flourish at Tydd St Mary's because everyone understands and embraces the Christian vision. Leaders, staff and governors are inspired by the example of Christ to serve their pupils and families. In this tightly knit community, everyone understands that individuals thrive when they work for the good of all.</li> <li>• Daily acts of collective worship set a deep spiritual tone that permeates the atmosphere of the school. Adults and pupils are invited to reflect and pray with calmness and curiosity, enabling respect and consideration for each one.</li> <li>• This inclusive school actively embeds diversity and celebrates difference, ensuring nobody is beyond the ambition its Christian vision. Leaders are keenly in tune with the needs of pupils and their families and strive to meet them all. This includes those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), and those who are considered looked after or vulnerable.</li> <li>• Leaders ensure that pupils have opportunities to serve each other and their community enabling their voices to be heard. They empower them to be agents of change for the good of all at local, national and international levels.</li> <li>• Religious education (RE) is very well led with a comprehensive approach to planning and assessment. This ensures that pupils are challenged effectively in their learning. Pupils value the opportunity to learn about a range of world faiths, including Christianity.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further extend the range of worship opportunities offered by the school in the community. This is to strengthen reciprocal links between home, school and church.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>Leaders and governors regularly review Tydd St Mary's Christian vision to ensure it is relevant and lived out in the community. It is unique to the school that sits within a wider federation. Staff are</p>	

inspired by the biblical example of Christ providing the deepest roots to sustain and grow everyone. They speak eloquently of serving the pupils and families in their school by inspiring pupils to be aspirational. Staff are particularly motivated to support the high proportion of pupils who are disadvantaged, including those with SEND. They regularly work with pupils and families who face extreme challenge in their lives. This leads to staff demonstrating their commitment to believing in everyone. As a result, staff work tenaciously to strive for the best possible provision for every pupil. Leaders prioritise staff training and wellbeing to enable them to be effective. Committed governors take pride in being the guardian of the school's vision and forensically evaluate its impact. This leads to governors regularly monitoring how the vision drives the school's priorities. As a result, governors effectively challenge and support how the vision is lived out.

The rich and varied curriculum provides many occasions for pupils to reflect and grow spiritually. Planned moments of awe and wonder feed pupils' curiosity to ask questions. Enriching learning experiences support deep reflection, such as an immersive rainforest experience in the school hall. A strong culture of exploring real life context drives studies to look beyond the local area. This ensures that the curriculum is shaped by the school's Christian vision. Good examples of this include the diversity trip to Leicester. Local community links are also utilised in enhancing learning, leading to projects such as 'Feed and Read'. This intergenerational project sees elderly individuals in the village coming to Tydd St Mary's for lunch, then reading with the school community. Pupils grow in confidence as they share and celebrate their wide range of achievements. They highlight how they have persevered to overcome barriers to learning, recognising that they are 'fulfilling their potential'.

Collective worship forms the deep spiritual centre of the school day. A real sense of celebration and togetherness is felt by those involved, reflected in joyful and active singing. Worship offers a welcome for all, without compulsion. Pupils and adults value the opportunity to stop and be refreshed, enabling them to grow spiritually. Worship is enhanced by external partnerships with a range of Christian groups through 'Clergy Thursdays'. The school provides regular services in the church for the whole community, such as Christingle and Harvest. Due to this breadth of experience, pupils and adults appreciate the personal nature of belief. However, not all opportunities to strengthen links between home, school and church are fully utilised. A wide range of opportunity within Tuesday worship enhances the provision offered. Here, staff deliver worship outdoors, as well as through dance, meditation and music. This provides a rich range of experiences that supports spiritual growth, inspiring pupils to talk enthusiastically about worship at home. It also allows staff to express and explore their own forms of spirituality. Through their role in the worship council pupils feel valued partners in the development of provision. They have been able to make suggestions, including, more drama and reflection time. This has encouraged pupils to see, think and act on the loving relationships expressed in the Bible.

Pupil leadership is an important part of ensuring they thrive at Tydd St Mary's. The school council selects the social action projects pupils will undertake. Pupils choose a local, national and international project to champion through collective worship and fundraising events. These are often linked to experiences in the school. For example, raising funds for the Royal Papworth Hospital, after a member of staff suffered a heart attack. They met with the surgeon, who performed the operation, and learnt about the work of the hospital. Pupils are also raising funds for the Downs Syndrome Society and learning Makaton to support a new pupil. The school council also has a voice within the local community. They lobbied the Parish Council to provide new equipment in the local park. Pupils have worked on a range of global social action projects, such as a with a school in Zambia. In this way they have helped to provide teaching resources for reading and phonics in the school. By working with local, regional and global charities pupils are actively addressing injustices in the world in which they live.

Leaders seek to serve their community and treat everyone well. The vision creates a warm and inclusive ethos where pupils and adults feel trusted. This is because every pupil is known individually, enabling active removal of barriers to their growth. 'My Mondays' intentionally explores wellbeing, diversity and difference. This leads to everyone being celebrated and no ceiling being placed on an individual's development. Highly effective staff enable vulnerable pupils to exceed all expectations. Driven by the vision of opening horizons for all, pupils thrive because of specialist support for mental health, wellbeing and behaviour. Leaders take staff wellbeing seriously. A culture of support is evident, through random acts of kindness and drop in chats organised by governors. Staff are encouraged to share their own interests in school, and this leads to them feeling highly valued.

The RE curriculum is carefully crafted to provide pupils with accurate knowledge about a range of religions and worldviews, including Christianity. Leaders work hard to ensure the RE curriculum challenges pupils to respond thoughtfully to learning. The subject leader has ensured the skilfully devised curriculum meets the needs of mixed aged classes. Specialist teaching of RE means every pupil is taught by the RE lead each week. This leads to consistency in provision, enabling pupils to articulate their knowledge and understanding confidently. Pupils' interest develops through big questions, which fosters their curiosity in the subject. It inspires them to explore more deeply questions about beliefs and how world religions are experienced. The highly effective RE provision in the school is being shared with others in the diocese. Governors work alongside the RE subject lead to challenge them and monitor the impact of RE teaching. This results in significant investment of time and funding into the subject, placing it as high profile in the school.

Teaching of RE is a genuine strength. Work produced by pupils is valued and celebrated in class Bibles that demonstrate the learning journey undertaken. As a result, pupils value their learning and are keen to share it. They make exceptional progress and have a real depth of knowledge that is revisited and built on over time. It is also assessed and tracked rigorously by the school through their 'gimme five' assessment initiative. Here pupils respond to enquiry questions by offering five pieces of core knowledge learnt. Work is moderated across the federation. It is also shared with local school cluster groups and in RE leader meetings, ensuring consistency of pupil outcomes. This results in RE continually developing across the school.

The inspection findings indicate that Tydd St Mary Church of England voluntary aided Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	8 March 2024	URN	120614
VC/VA/Academy	Voluntary aided	Pupils on roll	107
Diocese	Lincoln		
MAT/Federation	Tydd St Mary & Weston Hills Church of England Primary Schools Federation		
Executive Head	Sonya Ely		
Chair	Clive Browne		
Inspector	Christopher Allen	No.	847