

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Rumboldswyke Church of England Primary School

Vision

Our vision is to provide a nurturing, creative, Christian community where everyone will achieve their potential with confidence and joy, and embrace 'Life in all its fullness.' John 10:10

Rumboldswyke 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 Christian vision creates a welcoming and inclusive environment within this small and vibrant primary school. It fosters a culture of love, respect, and compassion that shapes daily life, ensuring that pupils and adults feel valued and included. As a result, there is a deep sense of belonging across the school community.
- Guided by the school's vision, leaders ensure the curriculum sparks curiosity and creativity. It engages pupils effectively in their learning, builds their confidence, and fosters a genuine love of learning.
- Effective links with both the Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership (BLLP) and St George's Church encourage the implementation of the Christian vision. They also offer valuable opportunities for the spiritual flourishing of the school community.
- The Christian vision fosters a nurturing environment where pupils and staff receive personalised support, enabling them to grow in confidence and flourish.

Development Points

- Develop and embed a rigorous system for monitoring and evaluating the extent to which the school's vision enables pupils and adults to flourish. This is to enable leaders to use the findings to inform and shape strategic planning, supporting the continued growth of the school as a Church school.
- Establish a shared, whole-school approach that promotes pupils' spiritual flourishing, ensuring that spirituality is fully integrated and consistently embedded across the curriculum.
- Provide ongoing religious education (RE) training for leaders and staff to ensure the curriculum remains relevant, appropriately balanced, and diverse.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

After a time of considerable transition, Rumboldswyke Church of England Primary School joined BLLP in October 2020. The Christian vision of the school and the trust are closely aligned and rooted in the message of John 10:10. This shared biblical text underpins their common purpose and Christian values. This small yet vibrant primary school offers a genuinely welcoming environment, fostering a culture of love, respect, hope, and compassion that shapes daily life. Pupils and adults alike feel valued and included, creating a strong sense of belonging throughout the school community. Parents rightly and passionately speak of the positive impact the school has on their families; one parent, for example, described how joining the school community has given her child a voice. Leaders, trustees, and governors work collaboratively to create a nurturing and creative environment in which both pupils and staff are supported to achieve their full potential. The development of the trust leadership group is strengthening the ability of leaders in this school to quality assure some aspects of the school's work. However, there is currently no systematic approach for monitoring and evaluating the impact of the Christian vision, particularly in relation to collective worship and religious education. As a result, development as a Church school is not sufficiently targeted and does not effectively inform planning.

Vision and Curriculum

The curriculum is intentionally designed to help pupils embrace 'life in all its fullness'. It is built around overarching 'big questions' and enriched with learning experiences that reflect the Christian values underpinning the school's vision. Pupils respond enthusiastically to this creative approach which enhances their curiosity and engagement. This was evident in a science lesson on light, where their active participation and thoughtful questioning reflected a deepening understanding of the topic. When asked what matters most at their school, pupils eagerly explained that they 'learn lots of things we don't know'. Parents affirm this, noting that 'the joy of learning is evident and impacts home life too'. Leaders ensure that learning is accessible to all pupils, including those with additional needs. Teaching is thoughtfully adapted to provide appropriate support, and well-planned interventions are introduced in response to specific needs. One example is the Monday morning art group, which helps pupils' transition smoothly back into school life after the weekend. Woodland activities at Rumboldswyke are encouraged as a way of developing personal skills beyond the classroom, including resilience, curiosity, and teamwork. These experiences also provide pupils with valuable opportunities to nurture stewardship for God's creation and to develop a sense of awe and wonder. However, opportunities for spiritual development within the wider curriculum remain limited, which restricts pupils' capacity for deeper spiritual flourishing.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is given high priority in the life of the school. It receives strong support from both the parish priest and leaders from BLLP. They play an active role in shaping it to ensure it reflects Anglican practice and tradition. Worship is invitational, inclusive and engaging. Pupils enjoy actively participating and particularly value visits from the Bishop Luffa worship leaders. Singing is joyful and central to worship, with one pupil noting 'it makes my heart shine'. Christian meditation, regularly led by the parish priest, provides time for prayer and stillness, promoting spiritual growth. Pupils appreciate these moments of calm, saying they 'help us think straight and calm down'. Staff have opportunities to support their spiritual wellbeing, including attending the trust-wide annual Eucharist service. This is offered at the invitation of the trustees. While governors and trustees firmly value worship, there is no formal system to assess its effectiveness in supporting the spiritual growth of pupils and adults. Consequently, there are missed opportunities to enhance the spiritual flourishing for the members of this school community.



Vision and School Culture

Guided by the Christian vision, school leaders create a welcoming and inclusive environment where pupils and staff feel cared for and respected. A culture of love, respect, and compassion shapes daily life. This helps members of the school community feel valued and builds a strong sense of belonging. Pupils understand the importance of kindness and inclusion. Parents and carers describe it as 'very important here' and they readily share examples of how their children's wellbeing and mental health has been supported since joining the school. Pupils confidently ask for help when needed. Forgiveness and compassion are reinforced through the school's behaviour policy, which promotes the importance of building and repairing positive relationships. Staff wellbeing is prioritised by governors and trustees, and as a result they know they are valued and cared for. Training is actively encouraged which leads to staff being better equipped to support pupils and their families. Parents too are nurtured and have access to a range of workshops which help them to support their children's learning at home. Pupils and adults flourish because of this strong nurturing environment.

Religious Education

RE is given a high priority within the curriculum. Leaders have established a clear and well-sequenced progression of what is taught and when, drawing on a suite of diocesan-recommended resources. Guided by the school's vision, staff carefully plan tasks, using creative and immersive activities to maximise pupils' engagement. As a result, pupils' curiosity is sparked, and they enjoy exploring a range of religions and worldviews. This, in turn, is helping them develop a deeper understanding of religious concepts, such as incarnation. For example, one pupil explained that this means God coming to earth as Jesus. Leaders have access to training and support through the trust and the diocese. However, these opportunities are not always fully utilised, meaning the curriculum is not consistently aligned with national developments in RE.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Pupils live out the school's core Christian values in the way they treat and support one another. Older pupils who serve as play leaders readily demonstrate love, respect and compassion towards younger children, offering guidance and modelling positive relationships. They value the responsibility entrusted to them and take pride in fulfilling their roles. Similarly, pupils who serve as worship leaders benefit from opportunities to collaborate and work as a team, making a meaningful contribution to the spiritual life of the school. Across the wider curriculum, pupils are encouraged to stand up for, defend and protect what is right, deepening their understanding of justice and responsibility. Initiatives such as becoming future-focused 'plant protectors' strengthens their understanding of stewardship and reflects the school's commitment to sustainability. This growing awareness of justice also motivates pupils to take action beyond the school community. The presentation of the 'courageous advocacy cup' is one such example. This was awarded to a pupil who created a promotional video and is actively supporting a charity that provides food for families and schools in need. Examples like this demonstrate how pupils are developing as confident and compassionate individuals, motivated to make a positive difference in the world. Strong and effective partnerships with BLLP and St George's Church make a significant and enriching contribution to the life of the school community.

Information

Address	Rumbolds Close, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 7UA		
Date	12 November 2025	URN	148184
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	124
Diocese	Chichester		
MAT	Bishop Luffa Learning Partnership		
MAT Chair	James Wilson		
Head of School	Lisa Harris		
Chair of Governors	Angus Reid		
Inspector	Jayne Pavlou		