

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Feckenham Church of England Primary School	
Address	School Lane, Feckenham, Nr. Redditch, Worcester, B96 6QD
School vision	
<p>‘With God we grow to live life in all its fullness.’ Rooted in the Parable of the Mustard Seed. Mark 4:30-32</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders, including governors and the Shires Multi-Academy Trust (MAT), have ensured that the Christian vision is relevant to the school's context. Deeply embedded, it underpins decisions and practices. It makes a positive difference in the experiences and learning of adults and pupils. • Pertinent Christian values rooted in the vision enable adults to create a genuinely nurturing and caring culture. This benefits pupils, families, and staff. • Collective worship is well-planned to reflect and promote the school's Christian vision and core values. It offers all the opportunity for stillness, reflection, and prayer. • Feckenham is an inclusive community where all mental health and wellbeing are prioritised. As a result, relationships are strong, and behaviour is exemplary. • Religious education (RE) is well-planned, sequential, balanced, and engaging. It enables pupils to gain a knowledge and understanding of a range of religions, including Christianity and worldviews. 	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create opportunities to empower pupils to act for justice and make ethical choices. This is so that pupils are encouraged to become agents of change within their community and beyond. • Embed the shared language of spirituality and the teaching of spiritual opportunities across the curriculum. This is so that pupils' potential for spiritual flourishing is maximised. • Broaden pupils' understanding of world religions and perspectives to prepare them for the diverse landscape of life in modern Britain. 	
Inspection findings	
<p>Feckenham Church of England Primary School embodies a nurturing and inclusive environment. Every pupil is valued, supported, and encouraged to flourish academically, spiritually, and socially. The school's Christian vision reflects its commitment to cherishing every individual within its community. The Christian vision guides leaders, including governors, in their strategic decision-making. There is a shared determination to create opportunities for pupils and adults to increase their educational experiences, skills, and knowledge. As a result, the school and trust are united in their sense of purpose and resolve to enable all to flourish. The values of wisdom, community, hope, and dignity drive the school's ethos. They are fully integrated into every aspect of school life. Values linked to scripture passages serve as a common thread throughout the curriculum and successfully promote the school's Christian identity.</p>	



Pupils receive a well-rounded education that prepares them to be responsible citizens. The school's vision and values underpin its inclusive approach to supporting all pupils. This includes pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Individual needs are sensitively addressed through leaders' early identification and subsequent targeted interventions. It is a priority for all pupils to learn in class with their peers. Daily arrangements are adapted to meet the needs of the most vulnerable. The progress and achievements of every pupil are a source of pride. The commitment to 'endless hope' for its pupils forms the foundation of the unwavering dedication to wellbeing and success. Pupils are encouraged to do their best, and mistakes are seen as opportunities for growth. The broad and balanced curriculum expands pupils' awareness and experiences of the cultural diversity of Britain. This includes planned enrichment and community engagement activities that enhance learning. Adults have introduced the language of 'ow's, now's and wows' to help pupils find a meaningful connection to something bigger than themselves. This approach provides a firm foundation for understanding the meaning of spirituality. It helps pupils understand themselves and think about what they value and believe.

Collective worship is deeply rooted in the school's Christian vision and values and is integral to the school day. It provides a cornerstone for developing the spiritual growth of pupils and adults. The worship program is carefully planned and strengthened by conscientiously chosen scripture passages, reflecting the Christian and secular calendars. All pupils and staff are invited to worship and engage in poignant moments of stillness and reflection. Pupils understand the Christian belief that God is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This is reinforced through visual cues and the school prayer. Worship often guides pupils to think about their actions towards others. Pupil reflections on the vision, values and spiritual moments are recorded in class-based books. This provides a focal point for their discussions and learning. Parents look forward to the times when the wider community come together. They value being welcomed to the weekly celebration worship. This further strengthens the partnership between the school, home, and the community it serves.

The school's vision creates a culture where everyone feels welcome regardless of background or ability. Leaders, including governors and the trust, are committed to supporting pupils' and staff's mental health and wellbeing. A deep sense of belonging permeates the school community. Parents speak highly of the school and appreciate the staff's attentive support and listening ear. They praise the school for the personalised care offered by staff. Relationships and behaviour are guided by the school's values of wisdom, community, hope and dignity. Pupils are educated on how to disagree well and are taught to embrace differences. This helps foster a sense of unity and acceptance within the school community. Pupils behave well and treat one another with dignity and respect. Through fellowship, pupils learn to 'put an arm around each other,' embodying the Christian values of love and compassion. Consequently, pupils feel safe in school and know they will be listened to. The nurturing environment within the school extends beyond the classroom, with parents describing it as a 'second home.' Initiatives such as the Wellbeing Café provide a reassuring space for parents to seek guidance and advice. This includes presentations from staff and guest speakers addressing topics such as resilience and mental health.

All pupils belong to the school council, ensuring everyone has a voice. Pupils' understanding of justice is extended through collective worship. The school emboldens a culture of responsibility, where pupils are encouraged to take ownership of their actions. The school's involvement in local events, such as the Feckenham Wake and Scarecrow Festival, demonstrates a commitment to community engagement. However, occasions for pupils to challenge injustice and be empowered to act independently are more limited.

Pupils enjoy RE and acknowledge that it is an important subject. They follow a challenging and sequential learning programme, ensuring a good knowledge of faiths and worldviews. Pupils engage with various religious texts and teachings, including the Bible and stories from a range of world

religions. The youngest pupils readily recount significant celebrations from their lives and draw connections with festivals from Christianity, Judaism and Hinduism. Using drama, artefacts, resources, and visits brings learning to life. It enriches pupils' experiences and provides tangible links to religious practices and traditions. By participating in discussions about religions, relationships, and the world, pupils develop a deeper understanding of themselves and others. Pupils' reflections highlight the positive impact of RE on their understanding of religions and their ability to identify similarities. They openly discuss how it helps them consider their own beliefs. Links with the local diocese help increase RE provision and staff knowledge. RE knowledge organisers strengthen pupils' knowledge and understanding of world religions and worldviews.

Being part of Shires MAT enhances the school's capacities. The relationship between the school and the trust is marked by collaboration and a shared aspiration for growth and success. Leaders play an active role in supporting other communities within the trust. They provide primary expertise and training and oversee SEND initiatives. The school and trust collaborate with the diocesan education team to access specialised training and guidance. The close partnership with the trust ensures the school continues flourishing and building on its Christian foundation.

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

Information			
School	Feckenham Church of England Primary School	Inspection date	4 March 2024
URN	148115	VC/VA/Academy	VC
Diocese/District	Worcester	Pupils on roll	101
MAT/Federation	Shires Multi Academy Trust		
Headteacher	Jeannette Little		
Chair of Trust Board	Michael Thake		
Inspector	Pamela Howell	No.	CR 23/24