



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

St Peter's Church of England Primary School

Address Marshall Drive, Brotton, Saltburn-by-the-Sea, TS12 2UW

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Overall grade

Excellent

The impact of collective worship

Excellent

School's vision

St Peter's Church of England Primary is a fully inclusive school, providing a nurturing environment for all. They ensure that every member of the school family, is treated with the upmost respect, as they teach acceptance in a changing world, and offer varied opportunities to enable everyone to flourish as a child of God.

Key findings

- St Peter's is a remarkable Church school. It is a place where lives are changed. Leaders have an uncompromising focus on inclusivity, breaking the cycle of inequality. Everyone in the school is faithful to its deeply Christian vision. They live it out on a day to day basis, with passion and sincerity, enabling everyone to flourish and fulfil their full potential as a child of God. The vision is firmly rooted in theology, which is articulated by the whole school community. The biblical passages which support the vision and values bring them alive. They inspire all in the community to speak the truth, be strong and courageous and act with love and self-control. Adults and pupils feel genuinely valued, respected and cared for. The school provides hope and aspiration for all.
- The headteacher provides exceptional leadership of the school, ensuring their vision shapes all that they do. They use the excellent relationships they have built within Brotton, the Church, the Diocese and the wider community, to live out the principles of a Church school. They have embedded a culture which equips all their pupils to be highly respected members of the school community, who cherish themselves and treat others with true acceptance in an ever-changing world.
- Leaders at all levels provide a genuinely friendly, warm and nurturing environment where pupils, staff and families can flourish. Leaders strive for excellence throughout the curriculum. They provide a holistic education which feeds the mind, soul and body. Pupils' behaviour is very impressive. Forgiveness and reconciliation are woven throughout the school's policies and actions. Pupils say 'that every day is a fresh start'.
- The special and well-established partnership between the school and the local church community has led to creative and inspiring collective worship. Pupils play a central part in worship. The dedicated and enthusiastic worship team, which is open to all key stage 2 pupils, take their role very seriously. They work with leaders to motivate, engage and inspire their peers to act with kindness and compassion. Collective worship allows pupils and adults to consider their place in the world and reflect on the wonder and mystery of God's universe. It provides rich opportunities for all pupils to grow spiritually. The celebration of the Eucharist, in school and church as well as within the communion programme, touches the lives of many.

- The provision of high-quality religious education (RE) ensures pupils have an excellent understanding of Christianity as a living faith and of other major world religions. Pupils explore RE through an enquiry approach which allows them to engage with significant theological concepts and develop their wider religious literacy. Staff ensure that lessons provide pupils with a ‘safe space to explore respectfully’.

Areas for development

- Extend sharing of the school's excellent practice more widely by providing support for other Church schools.

How effective is the school’s distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

Inspection findings

St Peter’s is an excellent Church school. It provides all pupils and adults with welcome, warmth and nurture. Everything that is done is based in love. It is authentic and it is transformational. The school serves its community exceptionally well. The school is the community and the community is the school. The Christian vision permeates across the local area bringing hope, aspiration and joy to all. The school and its staff truly change lives through their commitment to offering the best possible opportunities and experiences to enable everyone to flourish and fulfil their full potential as a child of God. St Peter’s is a very special place, where you can feel God’s work on a day to day basis.

Leaders at all levels ensure the well-embedded, and deeply Christian vision is woven through all aspects of the school’s work. Adults and pupils clearly articulate the vision and how it impacts positively on their lives in school and beyond. The vision is rooted in the Bible, and is focused on educating for ‘life in all its fullness’, through wisdom, knowledge and truth. This is intrinsically linked to the teachings of Jesus, so that he can be an example for all. The core values of truthfulness, courage, responsibility and friendship are central to the everyday life of the school. They enable pupils and adults to walk the walk of the school vision with honesty, integrity and humility. The headteacher is an exceptional role-model for all members of the school community. This is a school where real change happens.

The Christian vision allows staff, pupils and their families to flourish and to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. This is made possible through extraordinarily strong partnerships, not only with families, but with external providers and organisations who can provide additional support. These relationships are built on trust and respect. Staff know their pupils extraordinarily well. They ‘go over and beyond’ to meet the needs of individuals and their families. They recognise that for some, the seemingly minor may be monumental, and what seems unbearable can be conquered. The school’s highly effective use of pupil premium funding to support disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils, has been shared across the Diocese. Leaders have lived out their vision to educate the whole child, by focusing the funding on social and emotional learning, physical activity and providing enrichment activities that pupils would not usually be able to access. This is seen in the work of the Nurture Room, which supports targeted pupils and engages with parents and carers, to provide a package of care around the whole family. The school prides itself in being a ‘family of God’, where everyone is watched over, cared for and treasured.

The partnership between church and school is a real strength. The relationship between leaders in school and church is remarkable. They work hand in hand to ensure their work is mutually beneficial, building a community rooted in God’s love. There is a true sense of the school serving the local community with principle, generosity and compassion. Collaborative partnership working is extended to schools within the Trust. The excellent partnership between the school and the Diocese is mutually beneficial. The Diocese has led highly effective training for staff. The headteacher has worked alongside the Diocese to support leadership, including mentoring new headteachers of Church schools. Outstanding, innovative and inclusive practice is shared by leaders to enrich the work of other schools.

There is a deeply loving culture, across the whole school, which normalises difference and celebrates uniqueness. This ensures that everyone is treated with the utmost respect, and each individual is valued as a child of God. This permeates throughout the whole school community, touching and transforming the lives of staff, governors, families and the

children. Leaders have lived out this vision through their remarkable work, in partnership with the local authority and local schools, to provide a wonderful provision for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities. Pupils in the ‘bases’, supported by adults with high levels of expertise, shine brightly, often surpassing expectations.

The headteacher is passionate, and tireless in his pursuit of providing a holistic, spiritual and rounded education for all. This equips all pupils to flourish, regardless of their background or ability. The schools' vision has galvanised staff and families to work in harmony and have faith in all children. The curriculum provides pupils with the confidence, resilience and resourcefulness to grow and develop, both academically and spiritually. Leaders have carefully selected high-quality texts which reflect the diversity within God’s world and which raise aspirations for pupils through exposure to wider opportunities and experiences that life has to offer. The curriculum offers the opportunity for pupils to ask big questions, reflect on their own views and beliefs and constantly strive to be the best version of themselves. Behaviour across school is exemplary. Pupils show high degrees of maturity, independence and self-motivation. Pupils say they ‘look out for each other’ and are confident that staff do the same for them, particularly when things are difficult and they are struggling. The pupils are a real credit to the school.

Carefully thought-out collective worship, which is shaped by the school’s vision, offers rich opportunities for pupils and adults to grow both spiritually and personally. It is inclusive, invitational and inspiring. It is incredibly well supported through innovative prayer spaces where children can be themselves, reflect and question. Pupils are able to talk with confidence about spirituality. One pupil described how they feel when they are in their special place where ‘there is just me, and nothing else’. They have strong sense of their own identity, how they feel, how they connect and how they make sense of God’s world. There is a strong link with RE which enables pupils to engage and respond authentically. It has a significant impact on pupils’ lives and behaviours. It offers pupils and adults a sense of themselves within God’s world and inspires them to make bold and ethical decisions in their day to day life.

RE effectively expresses the Christian vision of the school. The curriculum encourages learning by providing a safe and respectful environment where pupils can explore their own views and convictions. RE is viewed by all to be a core subject. The curriculum is exceptionally well-thought through and planned by staff with consistently high levels of expertise. Staff make the most of a wide range of high-quality resources and rich experiences to ensure pupils’ learning is deepened. Pupils demonstrate very impressive knowledge and understanding of Christianity as a living faith and of other world religions. Pupils say that RE is ‘awesome’ and ‘makes them ask questions’.

The whole school community works seamlessly together to ensure barriers are broken down, no child goes unnoticed and all are valued as children of God. St Peter’s is a ‘fully inclusive school at the heart of the community’ which makes a difference to people’s lives.

Contextual information about the school

Date of inspection	18 March 2022	URN	145671
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2015		
School status	Voluntary controlled academy converter primary school	NOR	342
Name of MAT	Galileo Multi Academy Trust		
Diocese	York		
Headteacher	Richard Unthank		
Pupil profile	The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is above national averages.		
	The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is above national averages.		
Inspector’s name	Joanne Warner	No.	950