



Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Huby Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School

Address Tollerton Road, Huby, YORK, YO61 1HX

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 **Good**

The impact of collective worship **Good**

School’s vision

Only our best will do, be kind to one another.
Our vision is for everyone to have a thirst for learning within a high quality, caring, inclusive school built on Christian values. We foster an environment where children show respect and kindness to one another and the world around them and who are prepared for an ever-changing world.
Colossians 3:23, ‘Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart’.
Friendship, Respect, Perseverance and Courage.

Key findings

- Huby is a truly lovely place to learn and work. All members of the school community live and breathe the distinctive Christian vision with authenticity and kindness. The vision encourages all to ‘work at it with all their heart’, enabling everyone to flourish and grow as children of God.
- The headteacher leads the school with courage and dedication, walking the walk of the vision in all that they do. They support the whole community to be their best and to be kind to one another.
- Over the past eighteen months, the headteacher has refined the school’s vision, to ensure that it meets the current needs of the children, and community it serves, particularly in the light of the pandemic. They have put ‘their heart’ at the centre of this.
- The Christian vision clearly impacts on the curriculum enabling all to learn and develop as well-rounded pupils. The strong provision for religious education (RE) is at the heart of this. ‘Golden threads’ of learning run through the curriculum to ensure pupils experience high-quality RE.
- The daily coming together of the Huby family during collective worship is deeply valued by all. It offers a time in the day for everyone to ‘stop, reflect and think’. It inspires both children and adults to consider how they can serve and support both themselves and others.

Areas for development

- Develop opportunities for spiritual development throughout the curriculum to enable pupils to explore and articulate their spirituality in depth.
- Further involve pupils and adults in shaping collective worship through planning, monitoring and evaluating together.

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

Huby is a good Church school with many strengths. Leaders at all levels are committed to and passionate about their school and its service to the community. They work tirelessly, to ensure everyone is valued, respected and treated with genuine kindness. The headteacher, who joined the school eighteen months ago, has worked hand in hand with all members of the school community to revise the distinctively Christian vision. The vision, rooted in Colossians 3:23, inspires everyone to 'work with all their heart'. Pupils and adults are able to articulate how the vision encourages them to play their part in God's world. The well-chosen values of friendship, respect, perseverance and courage, give all members of the school community a shared understanding of how to live out the vision. Value champions, elected by their peers in each class, recognise and celebrate individuals who are making a difference no matter how big or small.

The extraordinary headteacher leads the school with determination and drive. They have achieved so much in a short period of time. They serve as an inspirational role model for pupils and their families, staff and governors. The governing body work in strong partnership with the headteacher and staff to do the very best for all pupils. The vision shapes their work as a Church school. They evaluate how effective the vision is by seeing the school in action and carefully listening to the voices of all members of the school community.

The school fosters an inclusive environment where all pupils and adults are welcome. There is a genuine atmosphere of warmth and generosity of spirit which pervades throughout all aspects of the school's work. Pupils are encouraged and nurtured to grow and develop so that they are very well prepared for life in 'an ever-changing world'. Staff know their pupils and families exceptionally well. They 'go over and beyond' to meet the needs of individuals and their families. Staff ensure all pupils, including vulnerable pupils, flourish in line with the vision. Examples of this can be seen in: the strong focus on supporting wellbeing; the creative provision developed for a pupil who needed a more play-based approach to learning; the careful and measured approach for a pupil to comfortably access collective worship; and the respect and understanding shown by pupils to each other.

The school's vision promotes tolerance and understanding, where all are deeply respected. Leaders take time to recognise everyone's potential as a child of God, 'wonderfully made, dearly loved and precious'. Everyone works exceptionally well together, with a shared mindset of 'only our best will do'. They are clearly focused on shared goals so that everyone, regardless of their background or ability, can live life in all its fullness. Relationships between all members of the school community are a real strength.

Behaviour and attitudes to learning across school are exemplary. Pupils treat each other with dignity and respect. They show kindness to each other and have a deep understanding of individual needs, offering support and friendship. Pupils show courage and perseverance in their work and play. Pupils are a delight and a real credit to the school. Staff act as excellent role models. Their words and actions reflect the school's values and demonstrate the importance of the biblical roots of the vision, that all that they do should be founded in love, kindness and fairness.

In line with the vision, leaders ensure that the curriculum provides broad and rich opportunities so that all pupils can succeed at 'whatever' they do. Leaders and staff have worked with the Diocese to develop a shared understanding of spirituality and how this can be woven throughout the school's provision. The curriculum is being developed to allow pupils to ask big questions and experience the awe and wonder of God's world. This work is not yet fully embedded across all curriculum areas. Extra-curricular opportunities reflect the school's vision by considering what individuals 'work' best at to allow them to shine. Pupils' interests and talents are well-developed through clubs which offer enrichment and purpose. For example: a sign language club has given pupils the skills to communicate with peers and members of the community; a book group has promoted a love of reading and friendship between older and younger pupils in the school. Pupils thrive at Huby.

Collective worship reflects the school's Christian vision and the importance of working hard for personal fulfilment and for the service of others, including God. It offers varied and rich opportunities which are supported well by members of the Church of England and Methodist church communities and the Open the Book team. The programme for collective worship is thoughtfully planned by leaders. Staff are now delivering and developing these plans with support from pupils at key times. Pupils are able to articulate their understanding of their own spirituality through the windows, mirrors and doors model. Collective worship has a significant impact on pupils and staff. They talk about how it 'makes them think' and 'what they can do to make things better'. Children share learning and responses to worship with their families at home. It inspires them to make a difference, serving their community both locally and globally. For example, pupils have actively engaged in community work, including litter picking and supporting the local foodbank. Parents say that collective worship is 'precious and meaningful'. It supports their children to make sense of the world, for example when dealing with loss, and promotes a real sense of care and kindness towards each other.

RE is led effectively by the passionate and knowledgeable RE lead. The RE curriculum is well thought-out and expresses the vision of the school. Staff make the most of a wide range of high-quality resources and rich experiences to ensure pupils' learning is deepened. They have a very good understanding of Christianity as a living faith. They explore RE through an enquiry approach. The curriculum meets the needs of all learners through a range of creative approaches which engage and stimulate pupils' thinking. Pupils are able to talk with enthusiasm about their learning, including trips to the synagogue, churches and the mosque. These visits have helped them understand more about different religions and world views, further supporting their respect for and tolerance of others.

Huby is a happy, caring and inclusive school. Its work truly reflects the distinctively Christian vision, providing a high quality of education rooted in respect and kindness where all pupils and adults can flourish.

Contextual information about the school

Date of inspection	26 May 2022	URN	121501
Date of previous inspection	30 April 2015		
School status	Voluntary controlled primary school	NOR	104
Name of MAT/Federation	n/a		
Diocese	York		
Headteacher	Jane Cunningham		
Pupil profile	The proportion of pupils who are considered to be disadvantaged is below national averages.		
	The proportion of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is in line with national averages.		
Additional significant information (if needed)			
Inspector's name	Joanne Warner	No.	950