

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

St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Goose Green	
Address	Warrington Road, Goose Green, Wigan, WN3 6SB
School vision	
Learning and living through Jesus Christ	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The deeply embedded Christian vision empowers this highly effective Church school. It is clearly aligned with the vision of the Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust (LDST) and enables all members of the St. Paul's community as they experience the love of God in action.</li> <li>• School leadership is strong and nurturing. The wellbeing and mental health of the whole community is a priority. This leads to openness, trust and hope for the future.</li> <li>• Relationships across the school community are highly supportive and rooted in Christian service. Consequently, all feel valued and safe as they learn and live through Jesus Christ..</li> <li>• Collective worship is rooted in biblical teaching and the exploration of Christian values. It is inspirational and inclusive and has a deeply transformative effect on the spiritual lives of pupils and adults.</li> <li>• Religious education (RE) provides pupils with a challenging and exciting curriculum. As a result, pupils are engaged and eager to learn and make good progress.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand pupils' opportunities to be agents of change in the community and beyond. This is so that they have greater confidence to be independent in their decision-making and actions.</li> <li>• Extend and embed the school's approach to developing spirituality across every aspect of the curriculum in order to deepen pupils' experience, reflection and understanding of the world.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>St. Paul's is a deeply caring and highly effective Church school. The Christian vision and core values are deeply embedded in daily life. They underpin policies, decisions and practice, transforming the lives of a diverse community. Staff and governors value the special nature of St. Paul's, the community it serves and its distinctively Christian approach. Leaders and governors know how the Christian vision affects all aspects of the school's work. They regularly monitor, evaluate and reflect on their decisions and actions in order to meet the needs of every individual. Constant reference to 'Living and learning through Jesus Christ' energises and supports the school's sense of purpose.</p> <p>Leaders work closely with the LDST and the Diocese of Liverpool. The school's Christian vision is clearly aligned with that of the trust. The partnership with other schools leads to innovative and exciting school development opportunities and the sharing of ideas and practice. The school takes</p>	

full advantage of the provision for continuous professional development and governor training. Consequently, St. Paul's has a forward-looking approach. It is open to new ideas and ways of working in order to live out its Christian vision.

The school and the parish church work extremely closely to bring the love of God to the local community. Wellspring is a joint venture located in the school grounds. It provides a mid-week worshipping community. Wellspring offers spiritual and practical support to the whole community, including some of the school's more vulnerable families. This outreach and demonstration of Christian love is greatly valued. It demonstrates the school's commitment to its mission as a Church school. Clergy and other members of the church community are actively involved in the daily life of the school. This partnership enhances the spiritual life of pupils, staff and families.

St. Paul's curriculum of GRACE brings the Christian vision and values to the heart of learning. By placing God at the centre of daily life, the school opens opportunities for pupils to explore their own faith and that of others in a safe environment. Retention of knowledge and resilience are actively promoted. Pupils respond to the challenges with determination. The school provides opportunities for pupils to develop their aspirations and look to the future with hope. At the core of the curriculum is the development of vocabulary and the ability to articulate ideas. As a result, pupils engage in meaningful discussion. Finally, the school places great emphasis on equality and engagement so that every individual can achieve and flourish in a safe and supportive environment. Consequently, pupils become inquisitive and creative learners. In all areas of the curriculum, pupils have opportunities to explore the awe and wonder of God's world. Leaders are mindful of the importance of incorporating spiritual development across the curriculum. Staff have started to identify opportunities within subjects. Visionary leadership constantly responds to the specific needs of pupils. Teaching and learning are tailored to the school's context. As a result, staff sensitively adapt the curriculum and delivery styles. A range of school visits and extra-curricular activities capture pupils' imaginations and broaden interests.

St. Paul's is a community rooted in generosity and kindness. Pupils are keenly aware of the needs of others because the school encourages their curiosity and ethical response to events. Their spontaneous desire to help others is admirable. The school is beginning to consider how pupils can take a greater lead as advocates for justice.

Collective worship is central to the spiritual life of the school. It is rooted in biblical teaching and the exploration of Christian values. All are included in the invitation to be inspired by Christ's example. Planning incorporates the major seasons of the Church's year, giving pupils an understanding of the rhythm of Christian life. Pupils experience a variety of styles and settings. This includes whole school and class-based worship. Pupils and staff experience formal and informal approaches and a rich and powerful prayer life. Everyone experiences the joy of music as a means of praising God. The school ensures that worship provides opportunities for staff and pupils to understand the Christian vision and how the values are part of everyday life. Pupils enjoy hearing Bible stories and learning about Jesus and God. Moments of reflection and time for private prayer are woven into the daily life of the school. Opportunities include prayer spaces and an outdoor reflection area. As a result, prayer is seen as a natural connection with God. Meaningful class worship embraces current affairs with reflection, prayers and biblical references. The highly valued staff reflection opportunities allow individuals to explore faith and spirituality in a safe and supportive environment.

The Christian vision and values underpin positive relationships throughout the school as people watch over one another in love. The school constantly seeks to treat every individual with dignity and respect. Pupils behave extremely well and are polite and considerate. They have a deep understanding of the school's core Christian values and understand that friendship, forgiveness and respect are part of living well together. A recent focus on diversity deepened pupils' understanding

of one another. They have many opportunities to take on additional roles within the school community. As a result, they have a great sense of responsibility and care for one another.

The school's loving and inclusive ethos sustains positive relationships with parents and carers. They feel comfortable and supported as members of the school family. As a result, they know that they can approach the school at any time for help and reassurance. Support, care and encouragement for staff enables them to thrive professionally and personally. Provision for mental health and wellbeing is a priority.

RE is clearly at the core of the curriculum. It is taught with commitment and enthusiasm. The diocesan syllabus ensures that pupils experience well sequenced lessons. They learn about Christianity and major world faiths and reflect on their own religious and spiritual convictions. Pupils have opportunities to delve more deeply into lesson content as they explore texts, discuss theological ideas, and answer challenging questions. Staff use a variety of teaching styles and resources to enhance pupils' knowledge and understanding. They adapt activities so that all pupils can access lesson content. As a result, pupils are engaged, enjoy their learning and make good progress. Exercise books and class floor books show that pupils experience creative and rich learning activities. They develop appropriate religious language and are confident to share opinions and ideas. Staff are supported in their subject knowledge through continuous professional development. This includes working with other schools in the LDST. As a result, the quality of teaching is a strength. Leaders carefully monitor and evaluate so that there is a consistent approach to teaching and learning. Staff use the assessment guidance in the syllabus to track pupils' progress and inform planning for future learning.

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

Information			
Inspection date	24 April 2024	URN	146399
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	186
Diocese	Liverpool		
MAT/Federation	Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust		
Head of school	Adam Rigby and Alison Jackson (Executive headteacher)		
Chair	Joel Thornton and Mark Wade		
Inspector	Jean Forward	No.	625