

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

### Naburn Church of England Primary School

#### Vision

‘Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on earth.’ Genesis 9:16

Every time we see a rainbow in the sky, we can remember that God loves us and will always look after us.

Naburn 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.

#### Strengths

- The Christian vision gives the school a strong sense of identity and purpose. This is lived out daily by pupils and adults.
- The school is a cohesive and harmonious community, which supports belonging regardless of circumstances. Its exceptional integration of pupils from a Gypsy Roma Traveller background creates a place where they can thrive.
- Pupils and adults greatly value collective worship. It offers rich and varied opportunities for reflection, which contribute to spiritual development.
- There is an embedded culture of responsibility in the school, rooted in the vision and an understanding of justice and equality. Pupils care for each other and seek to make their school, their community and their world a better place.
- The school has made good use of strong partnerships to support its development. These include effective relationships with The Education Alliance, The Diocese of York and the local worshipping community.

#### Development Points

- Develop effective monitoring and evaluation of the impact of the vision and other aspects of Church school practice. This is in order to support the ongoing development of the school.
- Complete the effective implementation and embedding of the school’s new religious education (RE) curriculum. This is to improve pupils’ knowledge and understanding in the subject.
- Extend and deepen opportunities, throughout the life of the school, for spiritual development, grounded in a shared understanding of spirituality. This is to ensure these experiences reflect the context of their unique community.



## Inspection Findings

The Christian vision is at the heart of this small village Church of England school. It was recently refreshed, reflecting ideas from across the school community. It inspires harmony where there is diversity and aspiration for all, using the story of Noah and the Ark. It is rooted in a Christian understanding of God's promises, brought to life for pupils and adults, regardless of belief. Leaders and staff work effectively to communicate the vision in ways that connect with pupils and the wider school community. As a result, the vision is already well-embedded, inspiring many aspects of school life and individual actions. This includes school policies and practices, the decision making of leadership and the ways in which people interact each day. However, there are no systems in place for monitoring the vision's impact and other aspects of Church school practice. This hampers the evaluation of effectiveness to support the ongoing development of the school. Governors are passionate about the school and its importance to the village, supporting and guiding its development. Fruitful partnerships have assisted the positive development of the school over the last year. The school is a member of The Education Alliance. This trust provides a range of support and challenge, helping the school develop its effectiveness. The school also values guidance and training from the Diocese of York.

The school is diverse, with a significant number of pupils coming from a Gypsy Roma Traveller background. The vision has inspired a highly integrated school community, where all can thrive. Impressive systems and approaches help pupils to settle and flourish. As a result, they have a strong sense of belonging, with one saying, 'It's like my second home.' Difference and diversity are understood by pupils and celebrated. The behaviour and attitudes of pupils and adults demonstrate genuine care and consideration for others. Consequently, pupils greatly value their relationships with peers and have confidence in staff. Parents are also extremely positive about the school and the level of care given to their children. They recognise that pupils are known, valued and understood as individuals and celebrate that, 'No one ever gets lost here.' Staff value the focus on their wellbeing. They appreciate the opportunities for professional development and training available through the trust.

In line with the vision, aspiration is central to the school's approach. Staff have high expectations of pupils and encourage them to have high aspirations for themselves. The leadership of the school, supported by the trust, has developed a new bespoke curriculum. Inspired by the vision and the needs of pupils, the curriculum uses experiences and visits to inspire study across the subjects. Pupils are positive about their learning and speak about how this approach engages their interest in topics. Staff creatively support pupils' learning, including those with additional needs. The school works closely with parents to ensure that pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities progress and flourish. Staff make good use of opportunities for spiritual development that occur through the curriculum. To further develop this, the school has accessed training on spirituality from the diocese. Leaders are beginning to connect spirituality to the experiences and worldviews of their diverse school community to deepen its impact.

Collective worship is highly valued. Pupils, regardless of their beliefs, appreciate collective worship as a time to reflect and grow. They find it inspiring and challenging. They also appreciate it as a time to be together as a whole school community, as do staff. Collective worship includes opportunities for prayer that are open for all. The school offers a variety of daily worship across the week, each with a different focus. Members of the parish community contribute creatively to some of these occasions, which pupils enjoy. Pupils value the regular opportunities to lead and contribute to worship, which encourages their spiritual development. Leadership and governors do occasionally gather pupils' views about worship. However, there is no systematic monitoring of its impact on the



spiritual development of pupils or adults. The school has a very positive partnership with the local church and worshipping community. Clergy and lay members lead worship in school and are governors. At the same time, popular school services and events have drawn people from the village and beyond into the church.

The school is implementing a new curriculum for RE, which demonstrates the importance of RE within the school. It ensures that pupils learn about the full range of content expected for a Church school. Additional Christian themed resources are integrated into the curriculum, which enhances the study of Christianity. Pupils also learn about a range of religions and worldviews. Pupils enjoy RE lessons, particularly those which develop their understanding of their own beliefs and those of others. Pupils' work and their deepening understanding of the subject demonstrates the initial impact of the new curriculum.

Pupils feel a strong sense of ownership of their school. They are confident that their voices are listened to by leaders and adults. For example, pupils' ideas and suggestions led to the review of the school's approach to behaviour. They are proud of the resulting 'Naburn Way' and the positive impact this has had. It contributes to their strong understanding of responsibility, grounded in ideas of justice and equality. They recognise how their actions affect others and how they can be positive agents of change. This has led to a harmonious school community where difference is not a barrier. Respect and mutual care predominate. Pupils have identified and actioned ways in which they can benefit the local village community. These have included litter-picking and tree planting. They also consider broader issues, such as prejudice and the environment. The school's links with a school in Sri Lanka widens their perspective and compassion to a global scale. Pupils have the confidence to know they can make a difference, individually and when acting together. In this way, as the rainbow is a symbol of hope in their vision, they aspire to bring hope to their world.

## Information

Address	Naburn, York, YO19 4PP		
Date	12 February 2025	URN	150205
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	43
Diocese	York		
MAT	The Education Alliance		
Headteacher	Kate Durham		
Chair of Governors	Anne Clark		
Inspector	Rupert Madeley		