

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Colne Christ Church Church of England Primary School

Vision

Together we learn; achieve and grow in the light of Christ.

Colne Christ Church 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.

Notable Strengths

- The aspirational Christian vision is deeply embedded across the Christ Church school community. It is well understood and enables pupils and adults to flourish academically, socially and emotionally.
- Collective worship inspires and includes the school community. It fosters a welcoming environment and provides significant opportunities for spiritual growth.
- Positive relationships and wellbeing are consistently prioritised across the curriculum and beyond. The strong culture of trust and love enables pupils, staff and families to flourish.
- Structured opportunities to explore justice and responsibility enable pupils to develop their own views. This supports them to challenge injustice and advocate for others with confidence.
- Strong and purposeful partnerships enrich life at Christ Church. Mutually beneficial links with the church, diocese and local community effectively contribute to pupils' spiritual, moral and cultural development.

Development Points

- Establish a sustainable, systematic approach to monitor and evaluate the impact of the school's vision. This is to enable leaders, including governors, to use a range of evidence to plan future developments at Christ Church.
- Enhance the religious education (RE) curriculum to provide more opportunities to explore the breadth of ways people live out their beliefs. This is to support the development of pupils' understanding of a range of religions and worldviews.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Christ Church is a warm and aspirational community where individuals are known, loved and treated with dignity. Rooted in John 8:12, the Christian vision shapes priorities across school life, from curriculum design to inclusion and wellbeing. Leaders champion its theological basis in love and growth, modelled on Christ's example of service. They make decisions through this lens. This emphasis creates a culture where relationships flourish and pupils thrive academically, socially and spiritually. Pupils are inspired by the vision, linking it to belonging, fairness and responsibility. Parents and carers affirm the school's nurturing approach and describe staff who go above and beyond in supporting families. Governors value their role in sustaining the school's Christian character, although systematic approaches to evaluating its impact over time are still developing. Partnerships with the church and diocese significantly strengthen leadership and learning. Clergy are visible in school and provide regular opportunities for shared worship and community engagement. As a result, leadership is clearly rooted in Christian values and enables a vibrant sense of hope and purpose for the whole school community.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is central to life at Christ Church and reflects the school's vision. Its structure draws on Anglican tradition and is planned around 'God's Big Story' to give coherence across the year. Prayer, liturgy and familiar responses create rhythm and security, while music and storytelling capture pupils' imagination. Worship routines and content enable pupils to describe how prayer, parables and shared reflection help them engage with Christian teaching. Big questions feature prominently, encouraging pupils to reflect deeply on meaning and faith. For example, pupils consider questions such as how to become closer to God, demonstrating growing engagement with spiritual concepts. Worship is a time for stillness and calm, when pupils and adults can pause together. Pupils value leading aspects of worship and enjoy sharing responsibility for shaping the experience. Regular clergy involvement enhances authenticity and provides opportunities for worship in church, particularly during key festivals. Adapted resources enable pupils with additional needs to take part fully, reflecting the inclusive culture of the school. Through these thoughtful practices, worship builds biblical understanding, nourishes spiritual growth and strengthens community identity within this caring school.

Vision and School Culture

The vision helps to inspire a culture of care where pupils and adults are valued and able to flourish. Pupils, staff, parents and carers rightly describe the school as a community where people trust, support and encourage one another. Leaders prioritise wellbeing alongside academic success, ensuring pupils' needs are met with dignity and compassion. Inclusion is supported through specialist input and adaptive strategies that meet pupils' needs with dignity and care. Strong partnerships and thoughtful approaches enable pupils considered to be vulnerable to flourish academically, socially and spiritually. Pastoral support is extensive, including access to counselling, play therapy and mental health first aid. Parents and carers value the nurturing environment where children are known and celebrated. They commend the school's sensitive handling of challenges and its commitment to welcoming families with dignity and respect. Pupils explain how friendship, fairness and belonging characterise daily life. They know that mistakes are opportunities to grow, reinforced through restorative approaches to behaviour. Governors and clergy affirm the importance of staff wellbeing and the consistency of this relational approach. As a result, Christ Church provides a safe, joyful environment where care and respect enable individuals to thrive.

Vision and Curriculum

The curriculum is intentionally designed to nurture every aspect of pupils' spiritual growth through rich, connected experiences. The intent balances academic ambition with inclusion so that pupils, including those with additional needs, can thrive. Teachers plan deliberately for awe and wonder, creating opportunities for spiritual reflection through creative, artistic and cross-curricular approaches. Pupils engage in activities such as



drama and storytelling. This enables them to notice beauty, reflect on experience and respond with action. Big Questions feature regularly across subjects, prompting pupils to explore belief, values and meaning in life. Pupils explore reflective art inspired by creation, investigate fairness and justice, and examine difference and equality. They also encounter diversity through curated texts and topics that open windows to global cultures and perspectives. Enrichment, including outdoor play, sport and drama, adds further opportunities for reflection, creativity and joy. Through this connected approach, leaders ensure the curriculum nurtures curiosity, moral awareness and confidence, enabling pupils to flourish.

Religious Education

At Christ Church, RE is highly valued and receives appropriate attention and resources across the school. Leaders are clear about their statutory responsibilities and ensure that provision reflects diocesan guidance. The curriculum takes an enquiry-led approach and balances theology, philosophy and human sciences to build secure understanding. Christianity remains central while pupils encounter a range of religions and worldviews through carefully chosen units and experiences. Leaders strengthen subject leadership by accessing diocesan CPD and contributing to collaborative development work. Staff gain confidence from regular support and modelling by the RE leader. Monitoring and evaluation through work scrutiny and pupil feedback enables teachers to review and make appropriate adjustments to planning.

Pupils achieve well in RE because lessons are purposeful and well-sequenced. Teachers revisit key ideas and vocabulary so that knowledge is reinforced and built cumulatively. Creative approaches, such as art, drama and structured discussion, help pupils explore complex concepts and reflect deeply on big questions. Assessment information informs teaching and provides insight into pupils' progress. RE shapes their thinking about fairness, relationships and belief. They recall core Christian concepts confidently and recognise some core features of world faiths they have studied. However, pupils are less secure when explaining the varied ways that religious and non-religious beliefs are expressed in people's lives.'

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Pupils view justice, responsibility and advocacy as natural outcomes of their learning, shaped by values flowing from the school's vision. Leaders ensure themes of fairness and responsibility feature widely across the curriculum, especially in English, PSHE and history. Pupils explore moral issues through stories, discussion and current events, forming empathy and confidence in making ethical choices. Opportunities for advocacy go beyond conversation and lead to purposeful action. School and faith councils give pupils a clear voice in shaping decisions, including environmental projects and effective playtime initiatives. Pupils fundraise for food banks, global disaster appeals and local initiatives such as friendship lunches. These experiences help pupils live out Christian values in practical ways. Partnerships extend this impact further through links with the Junior Town Council and inter-school diversity projects. Adults model fairness and respect, reinforcing concepts of dignity and service daily. As a result, pupils develop compassion, moral courage and a deep sense that they can positively influence the world.

Information

Address	Bent Lane, Keighley Road, Colne, Lancashire, BB8 7AA		
Date	25 June 2026	URN	119433
Type of school	Voluntary aided	No. of pupils	189
Diocese	Blackburn		
Headteacher	Andrew Peers		
Chair of Governors	David Foster		
Inspector	Lee Talbot		