



St Mary's C of E Primary School

Summary SIAMS Self-Evaluation 2026-27

"Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love".

School's theologically rooted Christian Vision

"Be Courageous, be strong. Do everything in Love" 1 Corinthians vs 13-14.

St Mary's is situated in the market town of Melton Mowbray. It is a busy and thriving town with a mixed demographic. It is a growing community facing modern pressures. Our school vision encourages us to look towards what is the right action and always act in love and compassion. We use this advice in all situations, every day. We show that we act in love by the way that we teach, the way decisions are made, the way we speak and act towards each other, the care and ambition we have for one another. We show our love for the wider community by sharing in acts of worship, selfless action (charity) and other expressions of Christian togetherness.

Our vision is rooted in the context of our school; the community we serve typically has high deprivation and many families have little pride in their community. Our vision aims to give our pupils, staff and families pride and ambition through love to be the best they can be.

Inspection Conversations: Context

Who are we?

- We are a one form entry school that serves a rural, Leicestershire Market Town. The school became a sponsored academy in February 2013 and is one of the founding members of Rise Multi-Academy Trust. Most pupils are white British. We do have a small percentage of pupils with English as an Additional language (5%) though this is below national. As a school we have 26 pupils who are on Eligible Targeted Pupil Premium (14.5%) and 27 pupils who are on Eligible Expanded Pupil Premium (15%).

	We serve a small military community. The percentage of children receiving free school meals is in line with that nationally. There are a higher proportionate of children with SEND needs than that nationally (21.2%).
What are we doing here?	St Mary's was founded in 1853, to serve the population of the town. The school was originally located in the town centre and linked and named after the main church in Melton Mowbray. Being an active and positive part of the church and wider community is important to us. The Christian vision of the school underpins the strategic leadership and day-to-day organisation of the school. All members of the school family value the vision and values of the school and endeavour to live them out. The school is well thought of by parents and the wider community because of this, and it has strong links with local church. With the love of God, children, staff and families, with or without faith and belief, are welcomed and celebrated. Our Christian values and broad and balanced education allow no social or cultural divide so that all can flourish and succeed.
Inspection Questions (IQ) How then shall we live? (This information is key to enabling inspectors to make evidence-based judgements.)	
Inspection Question (IQ)	Impact of provision and sources of evidence
1. How does the school's theologically rooted Christian vision enable people to flourish?	At St Mary's we want every member of our community to thrive and flourish. We always live through our vision. This allows us to hold and challenge each other to make the courageous and difficult decisions that need to be made to strengthen our learning community. We support and hold all our families including those seeking refuge, providing uniforms, meals and extra-curricular activities. We encourage all children, families, staff and governors to live together well. To be courageously kind, supportive and challenging to one another, and to see each other as the St Mary's family.
2. How does the curriculum reflect the school's theologically rooted Christian vision?	The school revised and reviewed its curriculum offer in 2019-20 to ensure that pupils knew and remembered more. This enables all pupils to flourish and succeed through a shared vision. By rigorous assessment and discussion with pupils, leaders ensure pupils remember and build on learning. The school's vision links to the high expectations for all pupils and the support and inclusivity it provides. The school has agreed a definition of spirituality that is understood by all, and this means opportunities for spiritual development are created and explored.

	We love and learn together by following our school's Christian values of love, respect, kindness, honesty, thankfulness and perseverance. As a result of this outcomes for our pupils are a key focus for us to ensure they meet their full potential and are ambitious for their futures.
3. How is collective worship enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritually?	Our collective worship is well planned and follows the Anglican calendar We work closely with the local parish, using bible reading and prayers used in St Mary's Parish Churches so that children can become familiar with Anglican traditions and practices. Children are invited to pray and sing together and share together in The Grace. Collective Worship is shared with parents through the weekly newsletter, The Friday Flyer. Opportunities for families to attend church activities are shared and encouraged. Many of our families attend church family events and services outside of school throughout the year. We ensure our pupils understand the wider world through our Picture News worship in which they discuss current news and issues. Pupils have opportunities to plan and lead worship. Children and staff have explored their own feelings and ideas of spirituality. They have shared their own expressions in their classrooms and created a whole school display. Staff and children have created their own definition of spirituality - Spirituality is feeling connected to something bigger than just us, being kind and finding what makes us happy and calm. It suggests there is more to life than just what we experience, connecting with something greater than ourselves. As a result of this pupils and staff can speak confidently about what spirituality means to them and how it fits within the school. Children have opportunities for spiritual reflection across the wider curriculum using Windows, Mirrors and Doors linked to our school vision.
4. How the school's theologically rooted Christian vision create a culture in which pupils and adults are treated well?	Our vision roots our actions and allows us to live out our church school values in a practical way. "Be courageous; be strong. Do everything in love" - 1 Corinthians 16 vs 13-14 • To serve others (Love) • To be respectful (Respect) • To be thankful (Thankfulness) • To be kind (Kindness) • To be truthful (Honesty) • To Persevere (Perseverance)

	Our school is not afraid to challenge injustice and believes steadfastly that the love of God is for all God's people. We are part of our Trust's Inclusion Network and take our responsibilities to develop our own learning seriously. We support all families, acknowledging that there is discrimination in society and ensuring that all of our families feel welcome, respected and know that they belong with us. All members of the school community demonstrate these values in the way that we interact with each other. In school this means that children are kind to each other and show each other respect. The older children care for, and support younger children and they know that derogatory language and bullying are not acceptable. Our strong sense of community and connectedness are reflected in the wider successes of the school. We have high academic expectations of all pupils. Children and parents are positive about their experiences of the school. Children say that they feel safe and cared for in school, behaviour is good, and we all care for each other. Governors talk to children to get their views. Staff morale and wellbeing is supported through school and Trust initiatives. Staff survey outcomes are positive, and staffing is stable at the school.
5. How does the schools theologically rooted Christian vision create an active culture of justice and responsibility?	The school's Christian vision and values enable the children to create an active culture of justice and responsibility. Children develop emotional literacy and the ability to make informed and appropriate choices which are rooted in their personal and religious beliefs. Pupils are encouraged to care for others, this means that the school regularly raises money for charities (for example Children In Need, Comic and Sports Relief, Harvest festival donations) either collectively or for individual projects. Children understand that the reason they raise money for charity is because this is the way we show love to others in line with our school vision.

6. Is the religious education curriculum effective (with reference to the expectations set out in the <u>Church of England's Statement of Entitlement for Religious Education</u>)?	Through the use of progressive, robust and sequential schemes (Leicestershire Agreed Syllabus incorporating Understanding Christianity) and the use of NATRE lessons and plans, our school provides an accessible and engaging curriculum which encourages children to think deeply and discuss big questions; pupils know and remember more of the curriculum because of this. Included in their learning are visits to churches and other places of worship. Our curriculum readies the children to live life in all its fullness and helps them to prepare for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of a multi-cultural modern Britain. Pupils can articulate their learning to senior leaders and enjoy sharing their books. The school collaborates with others in the Trust to share good practice in RE.
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