

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Crazies Hill Church of England Primary School	
Address	Crazies Hill, Wargrave, Reading, RG10 8LY

School vision
<p>Our vision is that our ‘fruit’ will be children and adults who have the resilience to weather life’s ups and downs, respect for themselves, others and their environment and the ability to build and maintain good working relationships with all in their community so that they can ‘be the best that they can be’.</p> <p>A tree is known by its fruit, people by their actions. Matthew 7: 20</p>

School strengths
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leaders are deeply committed to serving this school community and meet the needs of its pupils and adults exceptionally well. As a result, the Christian vision is realised, enabling the ‘fruits of the tree’ to flourish. • Relationships with The Keys Academy Trust, together with the local church and diocese, are highly beneficial. They make a significant contribution to the wellbeing of the whole community, helping them to fulfil their potential. • Collective worship plays a major role in deepening pupils’ understanding of the vision, contributing to the spiritual growth of both pupils and adults. • Staff and pupils’ mental health and wellbeing have a high priority. As a result, everyone is nurtured to be the best individual they can be. • Religious education (RE) is well led and taught coherently by inspirational staff across the school. Consequently, pupils have a high level of knowledge and understanding of different religions and world views.

Areas for development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extend opportunities for pupils to explore injustice to enable them to become agents for change.

Inspection findings
<p>Crazies Hill Church of England Primary School is rooted in its vision that their ‘fruit’ will grow and flourish. This accessible language means that it is known and understood by even the youngest pupils. The emphasis on the importance of relationships shapes a nurturing culture of love and kindness. Guided through the lens of the vision, leaders’ decisions and actions ensure the words of growth are a living reality. Decisions, such as creating a large, striking outdoor area for the Early Years pupils, promote creativity and enables flourishing. The school is part of The Keys Academy Trust (the trust), whose vision aligns well with that of the school. As such, trustees have a clear understanding of their role. Collaboration, sharing resources and bespoke training are all benefits of this partnership. Leaders ensure that the vision is a strategic priority, evaluating its impact robustly</p>

through focussed and purposeful monitoring. Targeted support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) ensures that all have the potential to achieve well.

Planned opportunities for spiritual development are intrinsic and interwoven through the rich, values-based curriculum. It is key to ensuring the school grows 'good fruit', utilising the resources creatively in its beautiful, semi-rural location. Several units incorporate 'big questions' that are designed to promote awe, wonder, curiosity and diversity. These include, 'being in my world' and 'celebrating difference'. Special times for stillness and individual reflection promote spiritual flourishing for both adults and pupils. In particular, effective 'calm me' sessions are especially appreciated as dedicated times for thinking. Targeted provision for pupils with SEND enables them to access the curriculum effectively and 'be the best they can be'. For instance, quiet spaces are provided to help support pupils who have sensory needs or require additional processing time. Exceptionally rich extra-curricular activities, such as fencing, yoga, sports and choir greatly enhance the curriculum offer. As a result, pupils are confident, resilient learners. The trust plays a valuable part in enhancing the school's curriculum by facilitating a wide range of training and networking.

The vision shapes collective worship at Crazies Hill and promotes spiritual flourishing well. It is a time when the school comes together as one. Themes, frequently linked to the values of relationships, resilience and respect, are rooted in Bible stories. These are all known well by pupils. Inspirational accounts such as the Good Samaritan, Daniel and the creation story are related clearly by them to the vision. Pupils and adults grow spiritually because of the experiences of prayer, stillness, music and reflection. A consistent understanding of what spirituality means at this school is shared by staff. The strong partnership with the local church adds variety to worship, enriching pupils' understanding of Christian festivals and Anglican traditions. A range of staff, clergy and governors lead collective worship, enhancing provision. Each class has a worship reflection book, where individual responses to worship are noted, prompting thoughtful discussions. Those who have SEND are well-supported during worship. This emphasises the way it is inclusive and creates a powerful sense of togetherness for the whole school community. Older pupils assist during worship, including leading prayers and helping with role play. This helps to promote leadership skills and inclusion.

Living well together by fostering good relationships is central to life at Crazies Hill. Wellbeing initiatives in place ensure that pupils and adults are given strategies to be able to 'weather life's ups and downs.' These include encouraging pupils to take a proactive role in solving their own problems and supporting their peers to do so. A specially trained 'nurture assistant' plays an important role in providing support for pupils who are vulnerable or experiencing anxiety. Treating others with respect is a core value that is upheld through the vision. This underpins pupils' behaviour, which is exemplary. Staff show mutual respect and are appreciative of the compassionate support of leaders. They are helped to grow and develop as 'fruits' of the school to achieve their individual professional goals. An effective 'gems award system' inspires pupils to live out the vision in practical ways day to day. 'Relationship rubies, resilience emeralds and respect sapphires', all linked to Bible stories, are greatly valued. Because of this, pupils have a good understanding of the vision, especially the importance of resilience and respect.

The embedded understanding to have respect for themselves and others, inspires pupils and adults to help those in need. This results in the support of a local foodbank and several national charities. Focussing on global causes raises awareness of world-wide issues such as poverty and ethical farming. Consequently, pupils are beginning to understand how they can make a difference in their community and further afield. Learning to take care of the environment inspires pupils to be involved in recycling projects and tree-planting. There are many ways in which pupils have a voice and become confident leaders. These include representation on the school council, as well as being team captains and playtime buddies. Pupils are thus empowered to grow into responsible citizens of

the world. Plans to further extend opportunities to challenge injustice are developing.

RE has a wide range of resources and has a high priority at the school. Pupils encounter a challenging, well-balanced breadth of experiences because of the rich, diverse curriculum. As a result, pupils gain a good knowledge of world religions, including Christianity. Additional activities go beyond the syllabus, enriching and broadening provision. These include termly RE-themed workshops and visits to places of worship, such as a Hindu Temple. Pupils' knowledge and interest is thus enhanced further. Strong partnerships with the local diocese and trust reinforce staff expertise and knowledge in the subject. Regular training and development opportunities contribute to the high quality of RE. Clergy support lessons, providing expertise in the delivery of curriculum content. This includes visiting for some topics to lead in-depth discussions. Well-trained governors actively support and engage in workshop sessions. This means they have an impressive knowledge of the curriculum and are able to monitor RE effectively. Leaders ensure that every pupil and adult has an abundance of ways to flourish and grow into 'good fruit'.

The inspection findings indicate that Crazies Hill Church of England Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	11 March 2024	URN	147378
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	85
Diocese	Oxford		
MAT/Federation	The Keys Academy Trust		
Head of School / Executive headteacher	Jo Shell / Luke Henderson		
Chair	Lesley Turville		
Inspector	Jenny Earp	No.	288