

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

South Wilford Endowed Church of England Primary School

Vision

To Spark the Flame & Light up the World – bringing out the God-colours of the world.

To always be at our best in our learning and spiritual journey. Through a collective commitment to high expectations and putting our faith at the centre of all we do, not only can we ensure that no doors are closed, but that the biggest and heaviest doors are wide open and our calling is clear.

By living out our Christian values and providing rich experiences, we will have the courage to walk through those doors with resilience, confidence and excitement to be all God meant us to be.

South Wilford Endowed 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 school's Christian vision to 'Spark the flame and light up the world' is transformational, underpinning school life.
- Partnerships between the school, the church and the Transform Trust are exceptionally strong. These partnerships, including after school worship and staff development opportunities, support the flourishing of both pupils and adults.
- Inspired to 'be curious', leaders have fostered and adapted an engaging and creative curriculum. This empowers pupils to learn and deepen their understanding of the world around them.
- There is an active culture of justice and responsibility at South Wilford. Pupils are given a powerful voice and embrace a broad range of leadership roles enabling them to become effective members of the community.
- Collective worship is carefully planned and developed so pupils play a significant role. The 'Faithful Friends' promote spiritual growth for the school community.

Development Points

- Strengthen the profile of Christianity as a global faith within the religious education (RE) curriculum. This is so pupils have a growing understanding of the vibrancy and variety of Christian belief and worship across the world.
- Continue to embed the shared language and understanding of spirituality. This is to enhance the spiritual flourishing of the whole school community.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

South Wilford lives out its inspiring Christian vision which is at the heart of its community. Leaders ensure that the vision shapes decisions, creating a school that is inclusive, welcoming and ambitious for pupils and adults. Staff work together with dedication and care, ensuring that learning is engaging and purposeful. Vision driven values of love, respect, curiosity and bravery mean that pupils thrive. Dedicated spaces, such as nurture and sensory rooms, enable pupils to know they are valued and are empowered to achieve their best. Pupils use the imagery of doors being opened to explain how they are supported in school and enabled to grow in confidence. The governing body plays a vital role in sustaining the school's Christian character and distinctiveness. Governors challenge and support leaders effectively through regular visits, monitoring the impact of the vision on school life. Valued partnerships with the trust as well as with the diocese, enhance the impact of the vision. Leaders engage with bespoke training and external peer reviews within the trust to sustain ambitious outcomes for pupils. This creates a strong framework for strategic improvement, ensuring the school's vision continues to guide both personal and academic growth.

Vision and Curriculum

The clear vision inspires pupils to be curious, supporting their spiritual growth. The school journey from nursery to Year 6 offers a broad and enriching curriculum promoting high expectations for learning and personal development. Pupils thrive and apply their learning beyond the classroom. For example, activities such as camping on the school field and residential visits, encourage resilience and enthusiasm for learning. Being part of the trust enables staff to visit other schools to share professional expertise and develop their curriculum. Staff work relentlessly, creating a warm, caring and nurturing environment where pupils can succeed. Pupils with additional needs receive personalised support which is carefully monitored by leaders to ensure they learn well and make progress. A rich variety of extra-curricular activities, including a small farm area as well as music, sport and craft clubs, offer practical learning experiences. These enriching opportunities foster resilience, life-skills and confidence. Leaders and staff explore ways of developing spirituality in the curriculum. However, these experiences, and a consistent, shared spiritual language, is not fully embedded across all subject areas. As a result, pupils and adults don't always recognise this as a time to grow spiritually.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship holds a central place in nurturing the spiritual growth of pupils and adults. Prayer plays a key part in the life of the school. The collectively written school prayer enables pupils and adults to connect at a deeper level. Moreover, 'prayer gestures' and quiet spaces encourage an inclusive approach where all can join in regardless of their own faith journey. The school's values are thoughtfully explored, connecting them with the life and teachings of Jesus. Consequently, pupils and adults understand how Christian principles influence people's thoughts, choices and actions. Worship regularly explores big issues, encouraging pupils to engage in meaningful discussions about life, faith and the world around them. Pupils volunteer to become leaders, 'Faithful Friends', in worship and confidently lead elements of worship. This deepens their own understanding of spirituality and inspires others to join in. Close connections with the local church, strengthened by the clergy's active involvement, further enrich worship and family partnerships. Services held in church and school, along with a coffee cart at the school gate offering support, prayer or a conversation, enhance flourishing.

Vision and School Culture

A strong sense of belonging is at the heart of South Wilford school, felt by pupils and adults alike. Building positive and effective relationships between members of the school community creates a culture of welcome, love and respect. Well-being is prioritised by the school leadership team. Leaders maintain open communication and manage staff workload thoughtfully. A staff well-being pledge, written collaboratively, ensures well-being remains central to leaders' thinking. Pupils know they are valued and this is reflected in their respectful and caring relationships with others. When challenges arise, restorative justice helps pupils reflect, repair and move forward positively. This ethos of love, kindness and forgiveness supports well-being in the school community. Parents and carers praise the school's supportive and collaborative approach, recognising its positive impact on



pupils' development, enabling families to feel connected and included. Through its vision, the school community is enabled to live well together with dignity, value and joy.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Through an extensive range of leadership roles, pupils know that their voice is important. For example, two elected pupil parliamentarians meet with peers across the trust and present to governors. This empowers them to take ownership and responsibility not only for their own actions but for those who cannot speak up for themselves. Pupils explain the difference between being upstanders not bystanders and have a deep awareness of justice and equality. Inspired by their school value to 'be brave' and do the things Jesus did, pupils support charities which are meaningful to the school community. They collect and donate items at harvest time to a nearby foodbank and to a charity that supports the homeless. Through a topic on fashion, pupils engage with and support a local charity that upcycles clothing to help vulnerable people. This promotes their understanding of how to stand up for justice and make ethical choices. During the annual community action week, each class chooses a charity to support, further developing their sense of justice and responsibility.

Religious Education

RE is highly prioritised and well-resourced and has a central place in the life of the school. The clearly sequenced and coherent curriculum builds on knowledge, skills and understanding over time. The RE lead provides training for staff which is further enhanced by support from the diocese and the trust. This results in RE lessons that are lively and engaging. Pupils understand its importance in helping them to respect others. They investigate key questions through a range of learning styles. They are challenged to think deeply about big questions. The youngest pupils explore festivals from world faiths through art, drama and role play. Older pupils become 'Bible detectives', analysing passages from the Old and New Testaments for evidence of Jesus' birth. Pupils have a deepening understanding of key Christian beliefs and practices. However, the diversity of Christianity as a global faith is not fully considered. This therefore limits pupils' understanding of the variety and richness of Christian practice across the world.

Teaching in RE is highly effective due to a range of creative and engaging activities. For example, pupils are given opportunities to consider diversity and faith across a range of religions and world views. Events in school, such as a multi-faith marketplace and visits to places of worship, deepen their understanding of those with beliefs different to their own. Assessment through quizzes and end of topic written tasks, provide teachers with a clear indication of pupils' understanding, enabling planning to target effective and consistent pupil progress.

Information

Address	Main road, Wilford, Nottingham. NG11 7AL		
Date	12 November 2025	URN	144548
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	380
Diocese	Southwell and Nottingham		
MAT	Transform Trust		
MAT Chair	Rebecca Meredith		
Headteacher	Natalie Aldridge		
Chair of Governors	Neil Johnson		
Inspector	Andrea Burrows		