



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

<b>The Morton Church of England VC Primary School</b>	
Address	Station Road, Morton, Bourne, PE10 0NN
School vision	
<p>Hand in hand, together we can... Respect, Achieve, Enjoy, Believe. 'And so encourage one another and help one another, just as you are now doing.' (1 Thessalonians 5:11)</p> <p>At Morton CE Primary School, we believe that our school is the place where our children will grow and flourish with nurture and encouragement. We have the passion to enable every child to achieve anything in their life journey. As part of the Christian family, we follow Jesus' examples and teachings; as we respect, believe, enjoy and achieve as a collective school family.</p>	
School strengths	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adults and pupils flourish at Morton as a result of its deeply rooted Christian vision. It is aspirational which changes lives and equips people to be the best they can.</li> <li>• Pupils are known and celebrated as individuals because they are treated with dignity and respect. A rich and varied curriculum enables pupils to be curious and supports them to flourish.</li> <li>• Collective worship reflects the deepest Christian roots of the school and is central to this vibrant worshipping community. Invitational prayer, opportunities for reflection and joyful singing contribute to pupils and adults spiritual flourishing in worship.</li> <li>• Positive relationships underpin this school, enriched by the reciprocal relationships with the local church and community. Consequently, Morton serves, and is served by its community, enabling all to flourish through a culture of generosity, care and love.</li> <li>• Religious education (RE) is well planned and enables curiosity which drives the whole RE curriculum. It has a high profile and enables all to appreciate a range of beliefs. Pupils encounter Christianity as a worldwide and multicultural faith, this helps them to understand diversity and difference.</li> </ul>	
Areas for development	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build on the very strong opportunities for spiritual development across the curriculum so the impact is maximised.</li> <li>• Encourage pupils to act as agents of change in global projects so they develop wider social action leadership experiences.</li> </ul>	
Inspection findings	
<p>The Christian vision is carefully thought through by leaders and governors to ensure that it is right for Morton. It supported and is grown by the vision of the Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust (LAAT). As a result, staff are inspired by the biblical example of Christ's love and compassion for everyone. They draw on the core values of respect, believe, enjoy and achieve as a way to build strong relationships.</p>	

Staff live out the vision by diligently serving pupils and families at Morton. They champion the growing needs of pupils who are disadvantaged or who have special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND). Leaders are attentive to the needs of all pupils, which leads to them being highly committed to all succeeding. For example, the time that staff spend building trusting relationships means that it is exceptionally well regarded in the community. Staff work above and beyond to strive for the best provision for every pupil. Leaders invest in the staff, through extensive training. They prioritise staff wellbeing to enable them to be effective in their work. It is supported extensively by the trust wellbeing and professional development offer. This includes training and collaboration opportunities that results in staff feeling valued and appreciated. Committed governors provide support and take pride in being the guardians of the school's Christian character. They regularly evaluate the impact of the vision and systematically check how the vision drives the school's priorities. This strengthens the outworking of the vision and is a key aspect of their clearly defined delegated duties from the trust.

The curriculum encourages pupils to flourish in their learning and to use knowledge wisely. This reflects the school's vision of achieving anything in life's journey. The ambitious curriculum is supported in its development by the trust and focuses on growing the talents of each pupil. It grows pupils' spirituality by promoting their critical thinking, curiosity and ability to reflect. However some opportunities are limited by the current language used to explore spirituality. The lack of agreed vocabulary and its consistent use limits deeper exploration. Morton provides opportunities for pupils to flourish through a wide range of extra-curricular clubs. These offer enrichment through sport, music and art. In addition, interests outside of school are celebrated and showcased as ways in which pupils flourish more broadly. This reflects the genuine culture of celebrating and including everyone.

Collective worship has a significant impact on the school's ethos, especially on the positive relationships that arise as a consequence. This is because worship is framed in a joyful and engaging experience. Worship provides ideal conditions for the school community to develop spiritually. Leaders plan worship carefully to promote the Christian vision and its core values. Regular reference to the Bible helps everyone to understand the vision's roots in Christian teaching. It is enhanced by links with local church leaders who offer meaningful ways to encounter biblical teachings. These include regular Sunday services for families and the community led by the school. Everyone is warmly welcomed and invited to hear the teachings of Jesus. Nobody is obliged to take part, but everyone is invited to reflect upon and respond to the person of Christ. Pupils regularly lead prayer through a structure of saying thank you, sorry and please. This enables prayer to be shaped by and for the individual. It encourages respectfulness, allowing all to choose to take part or sit and reflect. As a result pupils value these points in worship, seeing it as a chance to share their thoughts with God. Others, simply enjoy the quiet time to think. Personal contemplation is continued outside of worship by carefully constructed spaces around the school to reflect or pray.

The Christian vision ensures that the mental health and wellbeing of pupils is a priority. Pupils who have SEND are supported well. Leaders help families to work with external agencies, making sure pupils benefit from a curriculum that is ambitious for them. Pastoral support sees the pupil as an individual, resulting in pupils receiving bespoke help to regulate their behaviour. The impact is relationships are restored by living out the Christian values of forgiveness and love. Transformational acts are seen at Morton through its work with pupils who find school challenging. Staff help pupils to learn to regulate their behaviour by being compassionate and caring. As a result pupils fully access the curriculum, remain happy in school and feel included. Staff constantly listen to pupils needs and adapt resources in response. Consequently, everyone is valued as individuals and their needs are understood, leading to a settled environment where enjoyment is paramount.

Pupils live out the school's vision of serving others through a range of roles of responsibility and

leadership. Some pupils serve their local community by singing in the school choir. The choir visits the elderly in a dementia care home and supports intergenerational work. Pupils regularly organise events to raise funds for the academy trust charity leading to a greater understanding around disadvantage. They proudly serve their peers by being members of the school council. They work with the local Rotary Club to develop their leadership skills through the Rotakids project. As a result pupils understand democracy and decision making. Morton’s curriculum offers opportunities for pupils to learn about injustice and encourages them to become agents of change. One example is the school Lent challenge which highlights forty compassionate acts pupils can undertake. This ensures that pupils flourish by using their talents to promote the interests of those less fortunate than themselves. However, there are less opportunities for pupils to develop their leadership skills through international projects.

The RE curriculum is constructed to provide pupils with accurate knowledge about a range of religions and worldviews, including Christianity. Leaders work closely with the diocese to ensure that the curriculum challenges pupils to learn and critically think. Consequently, pupils respond thoughtfully to what they have learned. This leads to pupils developing sophisticated ideas about a range of religious and non-religious beliefs. Leaders support teachers to improve their knowledge of the subject, enabling them to be confident about what they teach. Because of well-chosen teaching resources, pupils have a good understanding of important Christian ideas. These include concepts about God being born as a human being and God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Pupils are challenged by ‘big questions’ such as ‘Do you need to believe in God to be happy?’ Morton actively uses cultural representations of Jesus and explores lived Christian practices from around the world to consider diversity. As a result pupils' understanding of Christianity as a worldwide and multicultural faith is strong.

The inspection findings indicate that Morton Church of England (Controlled) Primary School is living up to its foundation as a Church school.

Information			
Inspection date	9 February 2024	URN	143256
VC/VA/Academy	Academy	Pupils on roll	192
Diocese	Lincoln		
MAT/Federation	Lincoln Anglican Academy Trust		
Executive Headteacher	George Trafford		
Chair	Chris Lincoln		
Inspector	Christopher Allen	No.	847