

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Batley Parish Church of England Primary Academy

Vision

Together, we are one.

Each of us is a unique thread, and when woven together, we create the strong, colourful fabric of our school community.

Our strengths and differences make us stronger.

Every thread matters.

Together, we are weaving bright futures where anything is possible.

Batley Parish Church of England Primary Academy 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 Christian vision, inspired by Psalm 133:1, shapes decisions, relationships and daily practice. As a result, pupils and adults experience a strong sense of community that acts with purpose. The vision guides behaviour and informs both day-to-day choices and long-term strategic direction.
- Leaders serve with humility and deep commitment. The close partnership between the school, Enhance Multi-Academy Trust and the diocese creates a shared sense of mission. Working together strengthens leadership and keeps the school focused and clear about what it wants to achieve.
- Batley Parish offers warmth, care and hospitality, clearly living out its vision that 'together we are one.' This is evident in the school's commitment to inclusion, where those who may be considered vulnerable are supported with dignity.
- Religious education (RE) is carefully designed and well taught. Pupils develop a secure understanding of Christianity and gain insight into a range of religions and worldviews. They make clear progress because teaching is effective and the RE curriculum is well structured.
- Learning and extracurricular activities support pupils in developing their character and becoming reflective. Adults are ambitious for the pupils in their care.

Development Points

- Enhance the school-wide understanding of spirituality. This is to support adults and pupils in recognising and articulating spiritual growth in learning and worship.
- Extend opportunities for adults and pupils to engage in actively planning, leading and evaluating collective worship. This is to heighten its potential impact on spiritual growth.
Develop explicit opportunities to engage with issues of justice, advocacy and responsibility. This is to deepen pupils' understanding of local and global issues and their place within society.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Batley Parish is in a new season of growth as a Church school. Led with a deeply held commitment to its Christian foundations, the school exudes energy and positivity. Through wide engagement in reviewing the vision, the school now articulates it with greater confidence among pupils and families. The school is a compassionate and inclusive community where pupils are known, respected and loved. Its Christian vision, inspired by scripture, shapes decisions and relationships. As a result, pupils and adults flourish together, living out the school's belief that 'every thread matters.' Leaders, staff and governors communicate the vision clearly and confidently, and this confident understanding is embodied across the school community. The partnership with the trust strengthens leadership. It supports the school's belief that each person is capable of achieving and thriving. Leaders prioritise staff wellbeing through open communication and access to trust provision. This creates a caring, professional environment in which adults model respect, love and hope for the community. Governors and the trust effectively monitor and evaluate the vision, ensuring it makes a real difference in school life.

Vision and Curriculum

The vision-inspired curriculum reflects the school's Christian values and supports pupils, regardless of background or need, in achieving and flourishing. It combines high academic expectations with a focus on moral and social development. Leaders promote reading by providing a wide range of inclusive and engaging books. These help pupils explore diversity, build respect and deepen their understanding of the wider world. Teachers ask 'big questions' across subjects, challenging pupils to think deeply about the world and their place in it. The curriculum also reflects the vision's emphasis on community and respect, enabling pupils to develop empathy and understanding of others. The school's curriculum is strengthened through partnerships with the trust and the local church. The inclusion of visits and clubs enriches and broadens pupils' horizons and strengthen empathy and understanding of others. Therefore, pupils develop the skills, knowledge and wisdom to succeed and contribute positively to their community. The school is committed to meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This provision helps them feel valued, included, and well supported in school. Opportunities for spiritual development and reflection are not consistently woven through learning. The language to express spiritual experiences is underdeveloped. This, therefore, limits pupils' potential for spiritual flourishing.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship lies at the heart of Batley Parish's daily life. It is rooted in biblical teaching about togetherness and love. It takes various forms throughout the week and reflects the diversity of the community while maintaining a distinctly Christian foundation. Worship caters to the spiritual needs of pupils and staff. It offers moments of contemplation, prayer and connection with the Christian faith. Opportunities for discussion and a 'takeaway challenge' effectively encourage people to reflect more deeply on the message. This heightens the impact of worship on spirituality. This impact is evident regardless of faith commitment, showing that worship can be meaningful for everyone. Pupils clearly articulate how worship helps them to think about how they live and relate to others. Pupils have limited scope to plan and lead worship in school, which lessens their sense of ownership and empowerment. The partnership with All Saints Church enriches spiritual life, with clergy actively supporting the planning and leadership of worship. Staff and parents accurately describe the impact of worship in the way pupils behave, such as completing acts of kindness. As a result, collective worship nurtures a shared sense of belonging and spiritual flourishing. Reflection spaces throughout the school and classrooms offer pupils opportunities for independent prayer, stillness, and contemplation.



Vision and School Culture

The vision's message that 'our strengths and differences make us stronger' underpins an inclusive culture of dignity and respect. Leaders promote open communication, flexible working and access to the trust's wellbeing provision, including counselling and support services. This commitment to staff wellbeing enables adults to model integrity and care, fostering a calm and nurturing atmosphere for pupils. The shared belief that every pupil has potential aligns with the vision's message that each person is created uniquely. The behaviour policy 'The Batley Parish Way,' connects expectations to living out the vision, promoting hope, kindness, respect and community. Pupils explain confidently how the vision helps them treat others well and see differences as strengths. Adults model these same values, creating a community marked by compassion. Help is offered with kindness and in a way that empowers pupils. This enables them to face challenges with confidence and to develop resilience. Initiatives, such as the school's second-hand uniform shop, mirror the vision of 'every thread matters.' It shows care for each family and helps remove barriers to belonging. Guided by the value of trust, impactful partnerships enhance the school's pastoral offer. These include links with the police and healthcare providers. As a result, pupils, including those deemed vulnerable and/or disadvantaged, are well cared for. Initiatives, such as movie sessions, improve attendance and promote good mental health amongst pupils. Consequently, the school is an inclusive community where pupils' aspirations are nurtured and where members of the community feel valued. This shared culture of nurture reflects the school's understanding of love, service and belonging.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Batley Parish pupils are developing as articulate, thoughtful advocates for justice and fairness. Worship themes, news-based learning resources and school council initiatives enable pupils to engage with global and local issues. Pupils' involvement in charity events and environmental initiatives demonstrates their understanding of how their actions make a positive difference. They recognise that their unique strengths support and benefit the whole school. Pupils recognise that collective responsibility is central to living out the school's Christian vision. For example, adults decided the playground needed to be safer, and pupils helped decide how it could be divided. The impact of this can be seen in pupils' responses in their class worship books. When thinking about refugees, they highlight the importance of welcoming people. There are emerging strengths in how pupils learn about fairness, equality and justice. This work is not embedded in learning. As a result, pupils do not always build a deep or sustained understanding of local and global issues.

Religious Education

RE has a high profile within the school and across the trust. The curriculum is coherent, well sequenced and guided by Christian values. Leaders ensure that RE reflects the school's values of community and respect, enabling pupils to explore Christianity alongside a range of world religions. Lessons encourage questioning, reflection and creativity, helping pupils to develop a broad understanding of religion and worldviews. Monitoring processes, including book looks, lesson visits and pupil interviews, demonstrate secure understanding. The RE lead, supported by the trust and the diocese, provides training to ensure staff confidence and consistency. RE is well-resourced and contributes strongly to pupils' moral and cultural development.

The quality of teaching in RE is strong and improving. Teachers use the trust's shared planning and assessment tools effectively to ensure progression and depth of learning. Lessons are engaging, well-structured and inclusive, allowing pupils to access and contribute meaningfully. Assessment is used to inform planning and support individual needs. Regular checks show how much pupils understand over time. Consequently, leaders are aware of what is working well and where adjustments are needed. Pupils recall prior learning, make connections between different faiths and express their views with respect and thoughtfulness. RE learning enables pupils to deepen both knowledge and empathy, preparing them to live well in a diverse world.

Information

Address	Stocks Lane, Batley, WF17 8PA		
Date	18 November 2025	URN	107736
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	199
Diocese	Leeds		
MAT	Enhance Academy Trust		
MAT Chair	Janet Milne		
Headteacher	Louise Sennett		
Chair of Governors	Catherine Hall		
Inspector	Paulette Osborne		