

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Malmesbury Church of England Primary School

Vision

Growing together in wisdom and love; discovering life in all its fullness.

Growing: Our vision is to secure intellectual and spiritual growth for all our children and staff.

Together: We are a community, supporting and serving one another to collaborate and contribute to society. We flourish when we grow together. Growth is our aim for everyone.

In wisdom: Recognising that education has a deeper purpose than simply acquiring knowledge: to form rounded individuals who are able to make wise decisions in all circumstances, enabling lifelong thriving.

And love: The fruit of God's Spirit is love (Galatians 5:22). Love is the central value of our six school values. Love for others, love for myself and love for God. It is the value from which all the others flow. Each value is an aspect of the spirituality which we seek to develop in children.

Malmesbury 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

- Dedicated, innovative leadership at all levels empowers exceptional teamwork, inclusive of everyone's gifts and talents. This leads to a school where respect and nurture prevail.
- The engaging, courageous and challenging curriculum is a powerful expression of the vision. This leads to pupils who are inspired to triumph in their chosen goals.
- The value of love shines through key areas of the school's work. Adults and pupils work tirelessly for the wellbeing and flourishing of others. Thus, skills and talents are harnessed so that success predominates in personal and academic achievements.
- The vision drives an exceptional culture of compassionate care and encouragement in which barriers to learning are overcome. This enables pupils, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), to succeed, grow and flourish.
- Thoughtful and inclusive collective worship unites the whole school family. Pupils learn from key messages, and this inspires them to be respectful, responsible citizens.

Development Point

- Ensure there are opportunities for all pupils and adults to stop, pause and reflect. This is to strengthen and deepen their spiritual awareness and give them time to just be.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Upon entering Malmesbury School, one immediately senses the importance of the vision through welcome, displays and how staff and pupils interact. It is lived out and breathed by each member of the community. Pupils are supported and nurtured to understand the importance of working together and loving each other. Furthermore, experiencing a diverse menu of learning opportunities, with access to cutting edge technology enables a culture of personal growth. The highly supportive board of trustees and governors make strategic decisions through the lens of the vision. This is evident in the school expansion project where pupils and community are at the heart of the growth. Leaders at all levels ensure the vision is front and centre of future developments. For example, through discussions around the structure of the religious education (RE) curriculum and spiritual development opportunities within subjects. Consequently, the vision infuses a spark that ignites inspiration within its community members.

Vision and Curriculum

The vision drives pupils to 'discover life' through growing together. The curriculum develops the whole child and strives for high aspiration and success. Working closely with local business partners with a plethora of visits and visitors, the curriculum is brought to life. For example, in design technology, female engineers visit to inspire learning or museum visits bring Roman history to life. Furthermore, leaders prioritise extra-curricular activities such as cooking, coding and journalism. A wide range of sporting opportunities expand their vision driven decisions. The residential to Morfa Bay and 'tent days' are favourites. These experiences enable pupils to try out new interests, spark curiosity and develop skills and attitudes they need in life. Pupils grow spiritually due to the range of activities they are offered. However, there are fewer opportunities for adults and pupils to pause and reflect in their busy lives. This limits opportunities for school members to deepen their spiritual awareness and to just be. Pupils with SEND are provided with highly effective support in lessons and their pursuits. Due to the exemplary individual as well as class support, pupils thrive in their learning.

Worship and Spirituality

Pupils and adults appreciate the coming together of the whole school in collective worship. Woven through worship plans are an exploration of biblical narrative, Christian celebrations and the school's vision and values. Pupils enjoy participating in worship such as acting out the stories of David. They learn key messages from Bible stories and this inspires them to be respectful and responsible towards others. A range of worship leaders provide a variety of worship styles to keep worship engaging. Staff, pupils and youth workers from Malmesbury Abbey, provide a richness of inclusive and inspirational worship. Invitational prayer is used effectively to enable occasions to reflect upon or pray for themes included in worship. Times for spiritual growth are extended through opportunities such as the 'Jesus and Me' club. Furthermore, reflection spaces in class or outside in 'the meadow' extend experiences. As a result, pupils have many opportunities to consider themselves, their place in the world and the wonder around them. Consequently, their spiritual growth is given time to flourish.

Vision and School Culture

Leaders unswervingly go the extra mile to ensure that members of the school family feel equally valued. Life's challenges, such as trauma, grief and medical needs are taken seriously. Staff provide pastoral and practical support which is welcomed by families. Subsequently, parental relationships are respectful and cherished. Pupil and staff mental health and wellbeing are high priority at Malmesbury. The provision of a counsellor, emotional support staff and family support workers demonstrate this commitment. Coupled with tailored professional



development means that the vision is lived out in love. Staff social events such as rock and roll bingo, and entertaining pupils at Christmas with a pantomime enhance wellbeing. Adults experience life in all its fullness as they are happy at work and can fulfil their vocation. Moreover, pupils' needs are met through nurturing, loving relationships and they flourish. The special educational needs coordinator is determined in her role to ensure that pupils with additional needs are a priority. 'The Den' is a sanctuary for calmness and care. Close work with external agencies and exemplary school systems, with specialist provision is transformative for many pupils. Therefore, the school is a celebration of diversity and harmony, where people are respected as unique individuals and come together in dignity. Consequently, behaviour is exemplary.

Religious Education

Leaders have adapted their curriculum, using aspects from a range of syllabi, to provide a diverse set of study themes. These are planned to meet the needs of Malmesbury pupils. The rich programme of visitors and visits, and careful use of families sharing their own religious beliefs makes learning meaningful. Consequently, pupils display a respectful appreciation of a diverse range of religions, beliefs and worldviews. Pupils relish the engaging lessons such as the 'Gospel or Not Gospel' game to teach pupils about parables and beatitudes. Furthermore, younger pupils use Bibles and storyboards to learn why Moses is important to Jews. Diligent lesson planning ensures pupils can confidently discuss the philosophy and theology of religions. Professional development strengthens RE, with staff benefitting from diocesan training and shared learning. Therefore, teachers' subject knowledge is enhanced and classroom practice is consistent.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

With growing together in love at the heart of their vision, leaders and staff equip pupils to understand justice, equality, and responsibility. The curriculum encourages pupils to think about issues such as racism through artwork, such as Banksy's pigeon painting. Cross religious topics deepen thought and conversations. Discussion enables pupils to explore ethical dilemmas. As a result, pupils gain a deep understanding of justice and equality. Pupils often engage in fundraising for various charities where they want to make a difference. Wearing odd socks to raise money for club foot operations is one example. They clearly understand the need to act on behalf of others. Partnerships with the church, charities and local businesses deepen pupils' empathy and response to environmental and local needs. Subsequently, pupils leave Malmesbury as well rounded, confident individuals, with a clear moral compass, ready for the next stage of their lives.

Information

Address	Tetbury Hill. Malmesbury, Wiltshire, SN16 9JR		
Date	18 May 2026	URN	139753
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	408
Diocese	Bristol		
Headteacher	Stephen Heal		
Chair of Governors	Lawrence Mussett		
Inspector	Carol Dougill		