

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Northleaze Church of England Primary School

Vision

“Let your light shine.” (Matthew 5:16)

Inspired by the words from Matthew 5:16, our vision encourages every member of our school community to let their unique light shine. We believe that everyone—children, staff, families, and visitors—has something valuable to offer, and we aim to nurture a culture where kindness, respect, and individuality are celebrated.

Northleaze 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

- School leaders, along with the Lighthouse Schools partnership, coherently ensure that the Christian vision is central to all that they do. It is embedded into policy and practice. Along with the values, this creates a culture where pupils and adults flourish.
- The Christian vision and values influence carefully planned collective worship that enriches the spiritual life of the school community. It is a valued and integral part of daily rhythm, strengthening pupils' spiritual flourishing and sense of belonging.
- Driven by their vision and supported by the trust, leaders create a culture where the wellbeing of pupils and adults is enhanced.
- Leaders use the vision to shape an inclusive and equitable culture, where the needs of learners are nurtured.
- Religious education (RE) leaders have developed a well-balanced and sequenced curriculum. It deepens pupils' understanding and respect for a range of world religions and worldviews, including Christianity.

Development Points

- Develop a shared understanding of spirituality across the school. This is so that adults can recognise, plan and evaluate opportunities for pupils' spiritual development consistently.
- Extend opportunities for pupils to be agents of change. This is to enable them to initiate projects that address issues linked to justice and social responsibility.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

The biblically rooted Christian vision, underpinned by the school's values, permeates life at Northleaze. This is enhanced by the trust's vision, 'flourishing in partnership'. Consequently, it fosters a culture where staff and pupils succeed together. The vision guides purposeful decision making, ensuring pupils are valued and supported. Strong partnerships between school and trust leaders ensure Church school audits rigorously evaluate the vision. These evaluations shape strategic priorities and drive continuous school improvement. As a result, staff are encouraged to be aspirational and are inspired to 'let their light shine'. Relationships are developed through the school values of responsibility, creativity, respect, compassion, resilience and friendship. Governors and trust leaders share a clear understanding of the school's distinctively Christian character. They provide effective challenge and support, driving improvement. This ensures that the vision remains central to strategic planning and everyday practice.

Vision and Curriculum

The curriculum is thoughtfully shaped by the school's vision, inspiring enquiry, curiosity and thinking. Trust-wide curriculum units develop confident learners through engaging question-based learning. Cross-curricular links help pupils connect learning, faith and everyday life. Pupils strengthen their reasoning through debate and big questions that develop their oracy skills. Their appreciation of diversity is developed through carefully chosen texts. Creative activities and outdoor learning deepen reflection. Pupils are encouraged to value the awe and wonder of creation and their responsibility within God's world. For example, in a geography lesson, pupils explored their place on the planet. Enrichment opportunities are accessible to all, ensuring pupils benefit from rich learning experiences through residential trips and visits. A recent art project with a local paper artist celebrated the uniqueness of every individual. The permanent artwork reminds pupils that everyone can 'let their light shine' and make a valued contribution to the school community. Leaders continue to strengthen opportunities for spiritual development across the curriculum. However, this is inconsistent, as there is not a shared understanding of what spirituality is. This results in pupils and adults lacking the confidence to recognise spiritual development.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship forms an integral part of the rhythm of the school day. It is carefully planned to reflect the school's vision and values. Varied worship styles invite everyone to participate in ways that suit them. Pupils, staff and visitors are welcomed into shared prayer and reflection, making worship inclusive. Worship inspires pupils to care for others, protect creation and serve their community. A well-sequenced Bible spine provides progression through key Bible stories and themes. It forms the basis of worship and reflection. Clear explanations of liturgical colours, Anglican traditions and previous learning deepen an understanding of Bible stories and their relevance to everyday life. Pupils confidently explain how stories, including the Good Samaritan and the Paralyse Man, influence their choices and relationships. Pupil worship leaders confidently plan prayers and lead liturgical responses, strengthening their leadership and confidence. This makes worship more inclusive and relatable to younger pupils. Regular evaluation by leaders and pupils ensures it continues to grow and meet the needs of the school community. Spiritual flourishing is evident through pupils' participation in worship. Creating class 'Spirituali-trees' helps pupils reflect on their place in the world and recognise their unique gifts. The trees express their understanding of the fruits of the Spirit through their individual talents and qualities. Staff increasingly recognise that moments of stillness, music and prayer nurture spiritual development. As a result, the school community is growing in faith, wisdom and understanding.

Vision and School Culture

The vision creates an inclusive culture where pupils and adults are valued and supported to thrive. Leaders prioritise staff wellbeing through compassionate support, trust-wide services and care. Including during times of



bereavement or personal challenge. Thoughtful leadership helps staff manage change whilst still meeting their wellbeing needs and those of pupils. High-quality training equips them to respond confidently to pupils' changing needs. Provision for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities is carefully tailored, promoting dignity, inclusion and success. The vision shapes the Northleaze Way, a school-wide strategy that supports learning, behaviour and positive relationships across the school community. It celebrates individuals' achievements, encouraging pupils to support one another, build confidence and let their unique lights shine. These relationships are characterised by the school values of respect, responsibility for each other and compassion. In turn, this creates a calm environment where pupils are safe, valued and ready to learn. Pupils needing additional support, including help with managing emotions or project-based learning, remain fully included in school life. Consequently, attendance has improved and pupils spend longer engaged in learning. Strong partnerships with families and social groups help pupils build friendships and develop a secure sense of belonging. Parents value the caring ethos. They recognise its positive impact on pupils' confidence, resilience and readiness to learn.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

The vision inspires pupils to take responsibility in leadership roles. These include anti-bullying ambassadors, reading champions and the student council. Through these roles, pupils develop an understanding of fairness, justice and the importance of standing up for others. They are encouraged to serve others confidently. Pupils trust anti-bullying ambassadors to speak up for others with confidence, allowing their light to shine. The trust enriches Northleaze by providing shared opportunities to live out the school's vision. For example fundraising initiatives to help schools overseas. Pupils decide how to raise the funds, developing generosity, teamwork and a commitment to serving others. However, opportunities for pupils to initiate projects promoting justice and social responsibility remain underdeveloped. Consequently, pupils have limited opportunities to influence and improve the lives of others.

Religious Education

RE is a strength at Northleaze, pupils and staff value its importance. It meets Church school expectations through a well-planned, balanced and academically rigorous curriculum. Trust-wide planning and network hubs strengthen curriculum development through effective collaboration and resource sharing. This results in growing staff expertise. Leaders respond strategically to monitoring through individualised training, continually improving provision and staff confidence. The well-sequenced curriculum develops a secure understanding of different worldviews, including Christianity. Pupils explore festivals, such as Diwali and Hanukkah, at meaningful times, strengthening their comprehension of lived faith. They demonstrate secure knowledge of religious beliefs and practices, including the Five Pillars of Islam. RE builds purposefully on Bible stories introduced through collective worship. Enquiry deepens pupils' understanding of biblical texts, Christian theology and diverse worldviews. Challenging learning enables pupils to engage confidently with complex theological concepts, including the temptation of Adam and Eve. Consequently, pupils discuss big questions with confidence, insight and increasing theological understanding. Respectful dialogue enables them to compare beliefs, ask perceptive questions and appreciate different perspectives. As a result, they demonstrate strong religious literacy and are well prepared for life in a diverse society.

Information

Address	Brook Close, Long Ashton, Bristol, North Somerset, BS41 9NG		
Date	08 July 2026	URN	145264
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	178
Diocese	Bath and Wells		
MAT	The Lighthouse Schools Partnership		
MAT Chair	Adele Haysom		
Headteacher	Corinne Clarke		
Chair of Governors	Dan Charvil		
Inspector	Sara Fox		