

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

### Youlgrave, All Saints' Church of England VA Primary School

#### Vision

Together We Learn and Grow

Youlgrave, All Saints' C of E (VA) Primary School will inspire and nurture all to flourish through loving learning, being confident and courageous within our Christian ethos in school and the community, laughing, having fun and encouraging each other.

'Let us encourage one another.' Hebrews 10:25

Youlgrave, All Saints' 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.

#### Strengths

- Youlgrave All Saints' clearly expressed Christian vision underpins and drives the actions of leaders. As a result, pupils and adults feel valued in this nurturing and inclusive school.
- The Christian vision drives the curriculum. Pupils are motivated to learn, enabling them to deepen their understanding of the world around them and grow in confidence.
- There is a rich sense of belonging in this caring Church school. Trusting relationships built across the school community ensure pupils, adults and families work in unity and flourish together.
- Spiritual development is a key priority of the school. Pupils engage thoughtfully with big questions and through insightful discussions they are enabled to explore their own beliefs and understanding.

#### Development Points

- Provide opportunities for pupils to independently identify and explore issues of justice and responsibility. This is so they understand that they have the power to make a positive difference to the lives of others.
- Develop methods for recording pupils' learning in religious education (RE). This is to provide greater clarity for both pupils and adults in the content and sequencing of the RE curriculum. It is also to enable clearer demonstration of pupils' progress over time.



## Inspection Findings

This is a warm, caring and welcoming school at the heart of its village community. Inspired by a clear and recently refreshed Christian vision, leaders support and nurture growth in all aspects of people's lives. They know and understand the needs of pupils and adults well, ensuring the school community is enabled to flourish. The vision is expressed and lived out in the life of the school through the 'We CARE' values. Rooted in scripture, each of the values is well-established in the life and language of the school. Pupils understand how to apply values meaningfully in daily life. Parents see the positive impact of the school's nurturing culture on their children's growth. Staff feel genuinely valued and well supported both personally and professionally. They thrive in a trusting environment that promotes personal growth and professional aspiration. The valued partnership with the Diocese further enhances the impact of the vision. Close and mutually beneficial links with All Saints' Church strengthen the work of the school.

The clear and accessible vision is embedded into the daily life of the school and is reflected in the carefully planned curriculum. Leaders have worked diligently to ensure that what is taught is relevant and enriching for pupils. The clear Christian vision is the 'lifeblood' of this small school. Each individual is known, valued and supported within this close-knit school community. Staff are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where pupils can thrive. Pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) benefit from high-quality, personalised support tailored to their specific needs. This provision empowers pupils to succeed and fulfil their potential. Pupils benefit from a diverse range of visits and visitors that enrich their learning and open their eyes to the world beyond their immediate locality. For example, pupils in Key Stage 2 learn to play a brass instrument. This learning is further enhanced when pupils visit and perform with a national orchestra. Engaging trips and experiences allow pupils to learn new skills and develop greater independence. Consequently, pupils leave the school equipped with confidence, knowledge and skills for the next stage of their education.

Collective worship is carefully planned to ensure it is enriching, meaningful and accessible to the entire school community. It encourages thoughtful reflection on the school's values and how these relate to pupils' lives. Daily worship is inclusive and invitational. It creates a safe and welcoming space for personal reflection, with intentional opportunities for calm and thoughtful moments. Worship often explores big questions, encouraging pupils to engage in meaningful discussions about life, faith and the wider world. Pupils build Bible knowledge effectively through engaging storytelling that helps them relate themes to their own experiences and understanding. Pupil worship leaders, from the youngest up to the oldest, lead key aspects of worship. These responsibilities help pupils to grow in confidence and deepen their spiritual awareness through active ownership of their faith journey. Regular and dedicated visitors enhance worship by offering fresh perspectives and insights that enrich the collective experience. The local church is viewed as a natural extension of school and is used regularly for worship throughout the week. This strong partnership helps deepen the engagement of both pupils and adults in worship. Parents are welcomed to join worship at key times, strengthening community bonds and encouraging shared experiences. Local residents are also included in celebrations that foster a sense of belonging and community. For example, staff, pupils and their families hold a Christmas Eve nativity parade through the village. It concludes with a community church service that reinforces the school's Christian values.

The school's values of respect and community develop a growing awareness of justice and responsibility. There are frequent opportunities for pupils to take on leadership roles around school, which develops their sense of personal responsibility. Older pupils, in particular, take pride in serving as play leaders and sports ambassadors, supporting younger pupils during breaktimes. Pupils learn how to have restorative conversations with one another, ensuring they grow in their understanding of how to put things right with their peers. The school promotes a strong culture of fairness, tolerance and respect, which is evident in pupils' attitudes and behaviour. Within the curriculum and in collective worship, pupils have a growing awareness of issues such as inequality, poverty and climate change. They



are also able to respond spontaneously to local needs, such as supporting and participating in a fund-raising initiative at church. However, pupils have fewer opportunities to actively identify and challenge wider injustices.

RE has a central place in the life of the school. It is highly valued, and the curriculum is coherent and well sequenced. The experienced RE subject lead provides relevant and engaging resources to support teaching and learning. Training from the diocese is accessed regularly by leaders and teachers, which ensures that RE lessons are lively and engaging. Pupils use religious and spiritual vocabulary confidently, showing a rich and growing understanding of faith and belief. Christianity is thoughtfully represented as a global religion using carefully selected and diverse resources. Pupils recognise the importance of learning about various religions and worldviews to broaden their understanding. This learning deepens their awareness and respect for those with beliefs different from their own.

RE is taught by skilled teachers who challenge pupils and encourage deeper thinking, building on prior learning. This approach helps pupils gain knowledge and understanding while making steady progress. Leaders have introduced systems to monitor and assess progress in RE effectively. Pupils enjoy RE lessons and are inspired to reflect on their own beliefs, values and spiritual development. However, pupils' reflections are not consistently recorded, making it difficult to track their learning and progress.

Inspired by the Christian vision, there is a strong culture of love and kindness in school. Building effective and positive relationships between pupils and adults is central to the school's ethos. A trained specialist provides emotional support, enabling pupils to develop resilience and problem-solving skills. Targeted and innovative strategies are used to support pupils of all ages, building confidence to become more independent learners. Pupils behave very well. They are respectful, kind and show a clear understanding of how to treat others. They are proud to be part of a positive and encouraging school. Parents echo this sentiment, observing that the staff team goes 'above and beyond' in their care of the pupils. School leaders and governors ensure that staff well-being is prioritised. Trusting relationships form the foundation of the school's strong sense of teamwork and mutual support.

## Information

Address	Alport Lane, Youlgrave, Bakewell, Derbyshire. DE45 1WN		
Date	17 June 2025	URN	112924
Type of school	Voluntary Aided	No. of pupils	65
Diocese	Derby		
Executive Head	Teresa Nicholls		
Chair of Governors	Mark Shearing and Rachel Shooter		
Inspector	Andrea Burrows		