

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Potterhanworth Church of England Primary School

Vision

At Potterhanworth, we strive to be a caring school family where everyone belongs. We inspire joyful learning and high aspirations so that all can thrive. We aim to open our hearts and minds so that each person can make a positive difference in our local community and beyond. Together, we grow into happy, responsible and spiritually aware citizens for our changing world. “Rooted in God’s love, we learn, grow and flourish.” (Ephesians 3:17–19)

Potterhanworth 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

- Highly effective leadership ensures the vision is clearly articulated and consistently modelled. As a result, pupils grow in confidence, independence and success.
- An exceptionally rich and varied extra-curricular offer reflects the school’s commitment to joyful learning and high aspirations. These experiences broaden pupils’ horizons and inspire ambition beyond the classroom.
- Collective worship is a deeply valued and uplifting part of the school day. It brings the whole community together in reflection, unity and shared understanding. Meaningful opportunities for spiritual moments foster a strong sense of belonging, enabling pupils and adults to flourish.
- Extremely strong relationships and inclusive practice create a culture where pupils and adults are known and respected. As a result, a deep sense of belonging supports positive and secure emotional wellbeing across the school community.
- Religious education (RE) provides a balanced and engaging curriculum that inspires pupils to explore Christianity alongside a range of worldviews. This fosters pupils’ curiosity and nurtures a deep respect for diversity.

Development Points

- Enhance spiritual development explicitly within the curriculum, identifying moments for reflection and discussion. This is to ensure that spiritual experiences of pupils build consistently over time.
- Extend opportunities for pupils to engage more deeply with issues of justice and responsibility. This is to broaden their understanding about how they can make a positive difference.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Potterhanworth Church of England Primary School is a caring and inclusive community where pupils and adults are known and valued as individuals. The vision, *'Rooted in God's love, we learn, grow and flourish,'* is firmly embedded and shapes daily life. Leaders draw on the vision to guide decision-making, ensuring that kindness, respect and trust remain central to relationships and practice. This creates a strong sense of belonging and supports pupils' confidence and positive attitudes to learning. Staff nurture the potential of individuals, helping them to grow both personally and academically. As a result, pupils develop self-belief and a readiness to succeed. Adults model the school's principles passionately, demonstrating how positive relationships enable the school community to flourish. Professional development is thoughtfully supported, enabling staff to enhance their expertise and embed the vision consistently through their practice. Governors play an active and evaluative role, ensuring that priorities remain firmly rooted in the vision. The diocese provides valuable guidance, further strengthening leadership and maintaining a clear strategic direction.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is a treasured part of the day, bringing the school together in reflection and shared understanding. This time of stillness creates a calm and purposeful atmosphere, where pupils and adults engage with joy and meaning. Uplifting singing enriches these moments, creating a sense of unity and warmth. Stories and themes are carefully chosen to bring messages to life and help pupils connect faith to their own experiences. These act as powerful prompts for reflection, encouraging deeper thinking through the school's shared language of spirituality. Creative approaches, such as weaving a braid, help pupils understand how individuals contribute to a stronger whole. The awarding of the holding cross recognises those who live out the school's values, reinforcing their importance in daily life. Prayer provides a space for pupils to share thoughts and develop a sense of connection, fostering a feeling of harmony across the school. Deep links with the church and wider community further enrich worship, with services such as Christingle and Remembrance strengthening shared experiences. Regular worship within the church deepens this connection, providing pupils with a strong sense of belonging to the wider Christian community. This is further enhanced by a dedicated space within the church that reflects and celebrates the life of the school.

Vision and Curriculum

Extra-curricular provision is exceptional, offering pupils a rich and extensive range of opportunities to explore their interests and gain confidence. Pupils benefit from many meaningful activities, including the use of the spiritual garden and participation in the allotment club. Here they nurture plants and develop patience and responsibility, alongside the opportunity to deepen their connection to nature. The wider curriculum is broad and engaging. Experiences are carefully designed to promote curiosity, resilience and independence, enabling pupils to become motivated learners. Participation in a wide range of sporting opportunities further enriches pupils' experiences, developing teamwork, determination and a sense of achievement. Inclusive practice ensures that pupils, including those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), can participate fully in school life. Opportunities throughout the day encourage pupils to reflect thoughtfully on the world around them. These types of learning are often captured in a shared 'big book', which enables these spontaneous moments to be recorded. However, spirituality is not explicitly planned for within all curriculum subjects. Consequently, some opportunities to deepen spiritual understanding over time may be missed.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Guided by the vision, leaders work hard to ensure that pupils develop a clear sense of justice, responsibility and care for others. Through a range of experiences, they are encouraged to take initiative and contribute positively



to the community. The school and church councils and highly effective Eco Club provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to lead change. Members of this environmental group have driven significant improvements, including becoming committed to recycling following a visit to a waste management centre. They have created award-winning bug houses and hedgehog habitats, as well as planting crocus bulbs within the local community. Their work is supported enthusiastically by parents and the community, strengthening partnerships beyond the school. Pupils demonstrate a clear understanding of environmental responsibility, including the importance of litter picking and the consequences of pollution. Participation in charitable activities reflects a strong culture of empathy, with pupils actively raising funds for a range of causes. However, pupils have a limited understanding of how their actions can influence change beyond their immediate community.

Religious Education

RE is a central and important part of the curriculum. It offers pupils a rich and balanced exploration of Christianity alongside a wide range of worldviews. Strong resourcing enhances its depth and impact. High-quality professional development ensures that the RE curriculum contains accuracy and insight, which further strengthens pupils' understanding. Leaders have ensured that content reflects both diversity between and within faiths. This means that pupils are helped to appreciate that beliefs are expressed in many different and meaningful ways across the world. Such strong emphasis recognises and celebrates the richness of diversity. As a result, the curriculum aids the development of respect. Pupils have a genuine appreciation of how people live, believe and find meaning in different contexts.

Vision and School Culture

Pastoral provision is highly effective. A deeply embedded culture of care, inclusion and mutual respect ensures that pupils' needs are understood and met with sensitivity and consistency. Well-structured and carefully personalised support enables pupils to feel valued and secure. Provision is thoughtfully adapted on a daily basis to meet changing individual circumstances. This ensures that pupils receive the right support at the right time. Initiatives include dedicated quiet and reflective spaces and structured opportunities for calm and emotional regulation. Additionally, targeted activities are in place to meet the specific needs of service pupils. Each of these, along with other planned initiatives, provide purposeful opportunities for pupils to reflect, connect and receive guidance. As a result, pupils develop confidence in seeking support and a clear sense of personal security. The buddy system enhances relationships, with older pupils confidently caring for younger ones, fostering trust and responsibility. Pupils know that adults listen and act with sensitivity. A consistent focus on wellbeing underpins the life of the school. Staff are supported through initiatives that promote balance and care, including the opportunity to take a designated wellbeing day each year. Strong partnerships with families, the church and the community reinforce this culture. Consequently, this is a school in which pupils and adults flourish together.

Information

Address	Main Road, Potterhanworth, Lincolnshire, LN4 2DT		
Date	25 June 2026	URN	120534
Type of school	Voluntary controlled	No. of pupils	119
Diocese	Lincoln		
Headteacher	Ben Kennedy		
Chair of Governors	Richard Gilding		
Inspector	Kerrie Clowes		