

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Quethiock Church of England Primary School

Vision

At Quethiock School we are planting seeds, growing talents. To help us do this we 'BRING IT!'

Quethiock 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

- The distinctive Christian vision is known and understood by the school community and deeply embedded in the life of the school. The vision is driving decisions and leading to the flourishing of pupils and adults.
- Collective worship is a central part of the life of the school and deeply reflects the Christian vision and its supporting values. It provides significant opportunities for spiritual development and makes a difference to pupils' lives.
- Leaders have used the vision to create an exciting curriculum where a variety of experiences challenge and engage pupils. These enable learners, including those with additional needs, to discover and develop their talents. Opportunities for spiritual reflection are woven throughout the curriculum.
- Led by the vision, leaders have created a culture in which the wellbeing of pupils and adults is given priority. There is a strong sense of being a caring community, where all are encouraged to bring and develop their unique talents.

Development Points

- Increase the pupils' understanding of justice and responsibility towards others. This is so that more pupils can make the link between seeking justice for others and being change-makers.
- Develop the pupils' understanding of Christianity as a global faith. This is so that they understand the rich variety of Christian faith and belief.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

The Christian vision provides clear direction and meaning to the life of this school. Following a change of leadership, there has been careful reflection on the school's rural setting amongst farming communities. The school's vision is now expressed in language which reflects this context. The vision develops the parable of the talents and is closely aligned with the vision of the St Barnabas Multi Academy Trust. Supported by values of friendship, creativity and courage, pupils and adults are encouraged to discover and grow their talents. Adults see their role as planting and nurturing the seeds that enable others to develop. Leaders have worked to discover the talents of the staff team and provide effective opportunities for training and development. Pupils know the vision well and understand the Bible story which underpins it. They understand how the vision shapes their learning. Layers of support are provided by the trust which enable this small school to thrive as part of a family of schools. Governors' evaluation is systematic and effective. Through regular visits they seek evidence that the vision is lived out by pupils and adults. This is supporting the development of Quethiock as a Church school. As a result, this is a school where pupils and adults are flourishing and are encouraged to bring the best of themselves every day.

Worship and Spirituality

Collective worship is a central feature of the life of the school. Leaders have developed a clear pattern and structure for worship which is led by the vision and supporting values. This includes choosing an inspirational and memorable Bible story as a focus each week. Striking visual images and symbols are used to guide pupils through the different parts of worship. Singing is confident and joyful while prayer is invitational and inclusive. Daily acts of worship are underpinned by an understanding of spiritual development that is shared by the whole school community. Pupils and adults are encouraged to reflect on their purpose and place in life. This is expressed through simple language of looking 'in', 'out' and 'up'. Following governor evaluation of collective worship, there is now a deeper focus on a daily take-away. This is something that pupils are encouraged to reflect on outside of their worship times. Pupils' experience of worship is enhanced by significant partnerships with the church, trust and diocese. The vicar and a team from the local church regularly lead worship. The pupils value these creative and participative sessions which help them enter more deeply into Bible stories. Online worship with both trust schools and diocesan schools builds connection beyond the Quethiock community. They help the pupils to understand that they are part of a wider family of schools. As a result, pupils value their experience of worship. They talk confidently about how they use the skills and understanding gained during worship to pause and reflect at other times.

Vision and Curriculum

Leaders have designed a distinctive curriculum. The core curriculum is enhanced by a carefully planned outdoor curriculum which aims to broaden the pupil's horizons. Through challenging and adventurous activities pupils are encouraged to step outside of their comfort zones and discover and develop their talents. Shared resources and planning across the trust ensure that all pupils can access these activities. This outdoor curriculum is supported by carefully chosen reading books. These focus on the outdoors and enable pupils to relate their experiences to the core curriculum. As a result of training, adults readily identify planned opportunities for spiritual reflection throughout the curriculum. They also recognise the importance of pausing for spontaneous moments of reflection. Consequently, spiritual development is an intrinsic part of the whole curriculum and is contributing to the flourishing of pupils.



Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Opportunities are in place for pupils to exercise leadership responsibilities across the school. These include an eco-squad, school council and junior worship team. Pupils talk confidently about their roles and the ways in which they are leaders. Through the work of the school council, pupils understand that they have a voice and can help those in need. As a result, some pupils have been enabled to suggest ideas which led to whole-school fundraising activities. However, while older pupils understand the importance of justice, there is not a sufficiently developed culture of challenging injustice across the school. Consequently, not all pupils understand the link between seeking justice for others and being agents of change.

Religious Education

Religious education (RE) has a high profile at Quethiock. Supported by the trust, leaders have developed a three-year programme for the subject. This uses high-quality resources to ensure progression and curriculum coverage in the mixed-age classes. The RE leader has provided training for teachers to enable them to adapt the learning to the needs of their classes. This has been supported by training provided by the diocese. At the start of each lesson a focus on vocabulary ensures that pupils are equipped to access the learning. Planning also identifies different 'ways of knowing'. This ensures that pupils are introduced to subject-specific skills throughout their learning. Pupils enjoy RE and express that it helps them to learn about different approaches to belief and faith. However, the curriculum does not provide sufficient opportunities for pupils to learn about Christianity as a global faith. As a result, their understanding of different expressions of Christian belief and practice around the world is limited.

Teachers make careful use of assessment in RE. Tasks and questions at the end of each lesson are used to check pupils' understanding. Teachers then use this information to adapt their subsequent lessons which begin with a review of learning and an opportunity to address misconceptions. End of unit assessment activities inform the planning for the next unit of work. Consequently, pupils are making progress in their RE learning.

Vision and School Culture

The school vision is used by leaders to build a strong community at Quethiock. Collaborative relationships within the school and trust encourage and enable adults to flourish in their roles. Effective systems are in place to promote the mental health and wellbeing of both school staff and pupils. Careful attention has been given to supporting those members of the school with additional needs and removing barriers to learning and participation. Support from the trust is used effectively to develop adults' skills in supporting those with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). This includes creating a consistent, calm learning environment with dedicated areas for pupils to regulate their emotions. Opportunities are provided to help pupils learn about difference through curriculum experiences and residential trips. These give pupils a sense of life beyond their immediate experience. Consequently, pupils understand how to treat others with dignity and respect. School staff communicate effectively with parents and make themselves available to provide pastoral support and encouragement. As a result, this is a school where parents, pupils and staff feel known and valued. They are enabled to live well together and make a positive contribution to the life of their school.

Information

Address	Quethiock, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 3SQ		
Date	30 January 2026	URN	140477
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	57
Diocese	Truro		
MAT	St Barnabas Multi Academy Trust		
MAT Chair	Steve Bulmer		
Headteacher	Tom Riggs		
Chair of Governors	Ian Thompson		
Inspector	Simon Atkinson		