

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Mottram Church of England Primary School.

Vision

All things are possible if you believe.

Mottram 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

- Effective leadership creates an inclusive learning environment with the school's vision at its heart. Pupils and adults flourish as a result.
- The school's overarching value of love is evident, creating a tangible culture of care. Wellbeing and positive mental health are prioritised for pupils and staff, fostering an environment where everyone feels valued and supported. This promotes honest and respectful relationships.
- The vision and values are evident across the curriculum and underpin much of the learning experience. This influences pupils and staff, shaping their attitudes, relationships, and the way they engage with one another.
- Collective worship is a valued part of daily school life, that includes prayers, singing, reflection and discussion. These times support and enhance spiritual growth.
- Religious education (RE) is skilfully and passionately led. The subject has a high priority, ensuring pupils develop a knowledge of Christianity, world faiths, and worldviews.

Development Points

- Further develop ways for pupils to explore questions of justice and think deeply about global inequality. This is to help them understand how to influence positive change.
- Build on good practice by embedding a shared understanding and vocabulary of spirituality. This is to enable pupils and staff to express and share their own and others' spiritual experience.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

Mottram's Christian vision, "All things are possible if you believe" (Mark 9:23), underpins the school's work and life. It inspires pupils, staff, governors, and the church to live out their faith and help others flourish. The vision is evident in worship, celebrations, communication with families, and daily interactions across the school. Christian values, chosen collaboratively with pupils and staff, are rooted in scripture, and guide relationships and decisions. Governors and leaders monitor the vision's impact through visits, focused discussions, and regular evaluation. They ensure decisions about policy, curriculum, and wellbeing reflect the school's purpose. Partnerships with the local church and community strengthen the shared sense of faith and belonging. Staff are supported to grow professionally and spiritually, modelling the vision through their care and commitment. Enrichment opportunities provide purposeful experiences that encourage social responsibility and service. The school's trusted reputation demonstrates that belief and perseverance continue to drive improvement, nurturing an environment where pupils and adults thrive.

Vision and Curriculum

Rooted in the school's vision, the curriculum reflects its values. This provides an engaging learning experience for pupils, including those with additional needs as well as the most able. Staff share a clear belief that success is achieved through perseverance and faith, inspired by the vision. This conviction shapes teaching, learning, and pastoral support across the school. Teachers plan opportunities for spiritual, moral, social, and cultural growth across subjects, creating space for reflection and moral enquiry. The diocese works closely with the school, providing guidance, support, and resources that strengthen its Christian vision and daily practice. Pupils explore ethical issues and articulate how Christian values guide their actions, encouraging them to live with compassion and integrity. Pupils considered vulnerable receive tailored intervention and encouragement, enabling them to flourish alongside their peers. Through this curriculum, they grow academically, emotionally, and spiritually, equipping them to live out the vision.

Worship and Spirituality

Worship is central to school life and designed to be inspiring. Pupils, staff, and visitors engage with the teachings of Jesus and explore spiritual, ethical, and philosophical questions. Pupils benefit from worship in varied settings, including church services, classroom gatherings, and whole-school assemblies. Themes follow the church calendar and Christian values while also responding to global and local issues. Worship leaders from the local churches contribute regularly, strengthening the partnership between school, parish, and community. Singing, storytelling, and reflection are key features, helping participants connect emotionally and spiritually. The whole school community is invited to pray, and this is an important feature of daily worship. In addition to saying The Lord's Prayer together, many pupils are inspired to stand and lead their own spontaneous prayers. This promotes a sense of calm and mutual respect, providing opportunities for stillness. Reflection areas and the ethos team's reflection backpack encourage calm, personal contemplation throughout the week. These moments nurture empathy, kindness, and gratitude, motivating everyone to act with compassion and courage. Staff and pupils show a growing awareness of spirituality, and there are examples of thoughtful practice across the school. While this is developing well, there is variation in approaches and language around spirituality.

Vision and School Culture

The vision shapes the school's warm and inclusive culture, where relationships are characterised by respect, compassion, and care. The family atmosphere ensures that pupils and staff feel valued, creating a safe and nurturing environment. Leaders and governors model this belief through their actions, promoting encouragement, trust, and mutual respect. Wellbeing is at the heart of daily life. Initiatives like wellbeing champions, and curriculum days teach pupils to equip them with strategies to care for themselves and others. Positive attitudes and a shared sense of purpose help pupils recognise the impact of their choices. The school provides exceptional support for pupils, ensuring their needs are met effectively and consistently. This culture enables everyone to walk together in faith, demonstrating Christian values and genuine respect for each other.



Vision, Justice and Responsibility

The school nurtures a strong understanding of fairness, respect, and responsibility. Pupils develop a sense of justice through opportunities that inspire compassion and integrity. Partnerships with local and global organisations, foster resilience, courage, and a desire to serve others. Engagement in a range of programmes help pupils notice inequality and take action, for example through campaigns and charitable initiatives. Pupils are encouraged to think about questions of justice and global fairness. However, the scope of this does not enable pupils to fully explore these issues more deeply and understand how to influence positive change. Inclusion and acceptance, promoted through outside agencies and worship, underpin this commitment to a welcoming school. Pupils are supported to act thoughtfully against unfairness, reflecting a vision where faith inspires purposeful action and hope. They recognise their responsibility to serve others and act as agents of change within school and community. Leadership roles such as school council, ethos team, and eco team nurture independence, empathy, and moral awareness.

Religious Education

Leaders at Mottram make RE a high priority within the curriculum and meets the requirements for Church schools. They ensure that it reflects the school's Christian foundation and promotes respect for faiths and worldviews. The subject is skilfully, knowledgeably and passionately led. The curriculum is carefully sequenced ensuring progression and balance. As a result, it develops pupils' understanding and thinking skills in a structured and meaningful way. With careful monitoring, leaders and governors ensure that it continues to provide challenge, accuracy, and relevance. Resources are chosen to enrich lessons and support meaningful learning for pupils. Leaders ensure that RE is well-supported, including through the use of visits, visitors, and high-quality materials. Staff receive ongoing training through school-based sessions. This strengthens teachers' knowledge and confidence in the subject. The curriculum enables the development of understanding about the diversity of faith practices and worldviews. Through this provision, pupils flourish academically, spiritually, and personally.

RE teaching is closely monitored to ensure effective learning and progress. Leaders review this through observations, book looks, learning walks, and pupil voice, leading to improved lessons and higher achievement. Lessons provide safe spaces for debate and reflection, encouraging curiosity and meaningful links to pupils' experiences. Teaching builds on prior knowledge, with understanding checked through discussion and feedback. Information gathered supports progress for pupils, including those with additional needs. Lessons are adapted to ensure continuity of learning. Pupils confidently express their understanding of faiths and worldviews. The school website celebrates pupil voice, showcasing their achievements.

Information

Address	Warhill, Hyde, Mottram. SK14 6JL		
Date	09 October 2025	URN	106237
Type of school	Voluntary-aided	No. of pupils	121
Diocese	Chester		
Headteacher	Elizabeth Crosby		
Chair of Governors	Kate Sanderson		
Inspector	Nadia Caserta		