

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) Report

Rawlins Church of England Academy

Vision

Act wisely and make the most of every opportunity (Colossians 4:5)

Rawlins Church of England Academy 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 Christian vision creates a culture that enables pupils and adults to flourish. This is achieved through the way that associated values are biblically rooted and guide leaders' actions, helping to build success.
- Through rigorous evaluation, trust and school leaders have an accurate view of the school. Their aligned visions guide their strong ambition, ensuring they are well placed to embed their developments further.
- The vision shapes the curriculum and wider enrichment offer. This includes careful adaptations for those who have special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Consequently, pupils are enabled to 'make the most of every opportunity' which enables them to experience success.
- Relationships between pupils and adults are strong, creating an inclusive culture of belonging. Consequently, pupils feel well cared for, and know that adults are available to support them.
- Leaders and staff provide pupils with a range of opportunities to take on leadership roles, especially in the Sixth Form. These guide the ways that they serve and support others, fostering their understanding of responsibility and compassion.

Development Points

- Extend opportunities for pupils to engage invitationally in collective worship in areas such as personal reflection and prayer. This is to enhance the way it supports and fosters their spiritual development.
- Enhance the way that worship and the curriculum inspire pupils to decide how they will 'act wisely' and make ethical choices. This is so that they are able to independently plan and take action to make a positive difference to the world around them.
- Through the strengthened religious education (RE) curriculum, enhance pupils' attitudes towards the subject. This is to enrich their understanding of the diverse ways that people can live out their views and beliefs.



Inspection Findings

Vision and Leadership

The Christian vision to 'act wisely and make the most of every opportunity' is grounded in biblical teaching and guides leaders' actions. As a result, vision-led strategic decisions create opportunities for adults and pupils to flourish. Since Rawlins joined Embrace Multi Academy Trust in 2023 there has been a significant strengthening of the Christian distinctiveness of the school. Guided by the vision, aspirational school leaders are accurate in their understanding of the needs of the school and are committed to its further development. Rooted in St Paul's teachings, the vision inspires a culture where more and more pupils 'make the most of every opportunity'. There are effective systems in place to monitor and evaluate the impact of the vision. As a result, leaders are well equipped to build on the foundation that they have formed. The vision is underpinned by four Christian values which are known and lived out by pupils and staff. Consequently, the vision and associated values shape the everyday life of the school, guiding actions and decisions.

Vision and Curriculum

The vision drives the curriculum offer, ensuring that pupils have a wide range of opportunities to succeed. The development of spirituality is carefully planned for each subject, maximising spiritual flourishing. There are a wide range of enrichment and extra-curricular opportunities which enable pupils to thrive in their own unique ways. This includes clubs led by Christian youth workers and parish volunteers. Leaders carefully monitor the accessibility and uptake of trips and clubs. This ensures that pupils, including those considered vulnerable, are able to access them. Guided by the vision, the school is inclusive, offering a warm welcome to those who join them irrespective of background. Carefully designed specialist resource bases provide targeted support for those who have SEND. Leaders ensure that pupils who attend these are able to benefit from small class sizes and specialist teaching. Skilled staff ensure that the curriculum is adapted to support their learning so that it is relevant and meaningful. Pupils in the main school have access to additional support where it is required, increasing their chance of success. The quality of the curriculum is enhanced through the professional development offered by the trust. For example, teachers have received recent trust-wide training in developing spirituality. This has increased their confidence in enhancing the spiritual development of pupils.

Worship and Spirituality

Over the last few years, leaders have prioritised the provision of quality daily collective worship. Their ongoing work on this ensures that weekly year group worship is carefully designed in line with Anglican traditions. This includes some limited opportunities for spiritual development through discussion, reflection and prayer. Themes are related to the vision and associated values, the Church year or global events. Leaders seek to connect with, and engage, pupils through reference to events such as the football world cup. This includes real life examples of how players and people can demonstrate the Christian value of gentleness in their lives. Opportunities for spiritual growth are also carefully considered in form group worship. During these sessions, pupils spend time reflecting on themselves, others and the world around them. However, the way that form group worship is rooted in the variety of Anglican traditions is less developed. Pupil engagement in worship, including invitational opportunities for personal reflection and prayer is varied. Although there are a few notable examples of pupils being very active, these occasions are not common. This limits the impact of worship on spiritual flourishing. The school has recently strengthened its relationship with the local church. Consequently, pupils now have access to regular church services. These opportunities to worship in the local church are starting to help them to understand the Christian year and Anglican styles of worship. Services in church are designed to be deliberately inclusive and invitational encouraging increased participation.

Vision and School Culture

The Christian vision drives leaders' work in creating a positive culture at Rawlins. As a result, pupils' attendance is improving and behavioural incidents are reducing. Pupils feel well looked after in school. Relationships



between members of staff and pupils are strong. This fosters an inclusive culture and a strong sense of belonging. Leaders are proactive in creating a culture of acceptance and ensure that pupils and families have access to appropriate support for their wellbeing. This includes access to the internal services provided by school staff, or to external agencies when needed. Staff feedback demonstrates that, whilst the school has been through a challenging period, things are now improving. They have confidence in the school and trust leaders, benefitting from the difference they make and how this is inspired by the vision. Effective support is provided by the trust to enable staff to manage their wellbeing and mental health.

Vision, Justice and Responsibility

Inspired by their biblically rooted vision, and associated values, pupils offer support and guidance to their peers. Pupil mentoring aids transition arrangements from primary schools and from Years 11 into 12. Younger pupils benefit from support with reading and pastoral matters which are provided by members of the Sixth Form. They signpost others to services, or refer to adults, when additional help is required. These activities enable pupils to develop compassion and responsibility and to make ethical choices to help others. The team of house captains are highly impactful. They organise school events and raise money for charities. They also collaborate with the staff team about making improvements. House captains and Sixth Form pupils have regular occasions when they can plan to take action based on their ethical choices. However, the majority of pupils have limited chances to make their own decisions to 'act wisely' and make ethical choices. There are too few opportunities within lesson time for pupils to reflect on different forms of injustice and decide how they will respond. This limits the way that most pupils are enabled to use their sense of personal responsibility to challenge injustice.

Religious Education

The Christian vision has driven leaders to raise the profile of RE. As a result, they ensure that pupils, including those within the Sixth Form, have access to a curriculum which is relevant to them. In addition, ambitious leaders ensure that pupils in Key Stage 4 study RE to GCSE level. This enhances pupils' understanding of the diversity of beliefs and worldviews. There is also a small but growing number of pupils choosing to study on the philosophy and ethics A level course. RE units of work have been designed to reflect the local context and are well balanced and sequenced. Leaders have overcome challenges prioritising the appointment of suitably qualified specialist teachers. This ensures confidence in delivering the curriculum. Positive relationships with the diocese and trust enhance the provision of RE through valued training and support. This is enhanced through the school's partnership with the other secondary Church school in the trust. However, the legacy of the previous weaker RE curriculum and recent high turnover of staff impacts negatively on some pupils' attitudes to RE. Leaders are aware of this and are proactively working to address this.

Information

Address	Loughborough Road, Quorn, Loughborough LE12 8DY		
Date	12 June 2026	URN	137640
Type of school	Academy	No. of pupils	1457
Diocese	Leicester		
MAT	Embrace Multi Academy Trust		
MAT Chair	John Haggart		
Headteacher	Stuart Morton		
Chair of Governors	Fi Hollas		
Inspector	Claire Platt		