

Mugginton Church of England Primary School

SIAMS Self Evaluation

2023 – 2024



Who are we?

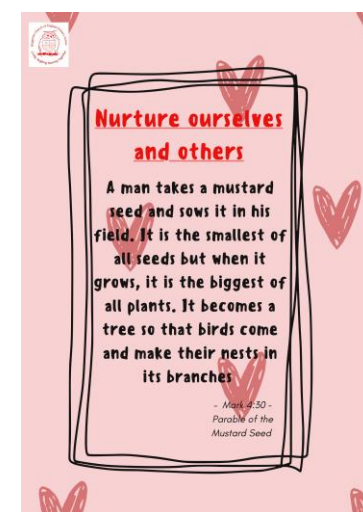
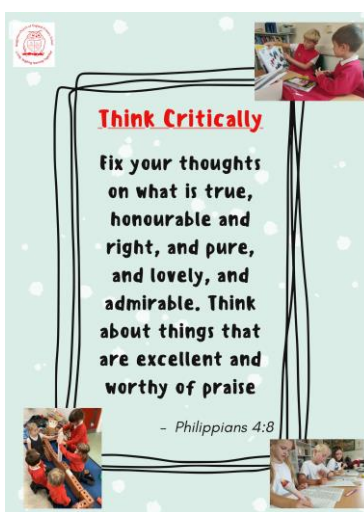
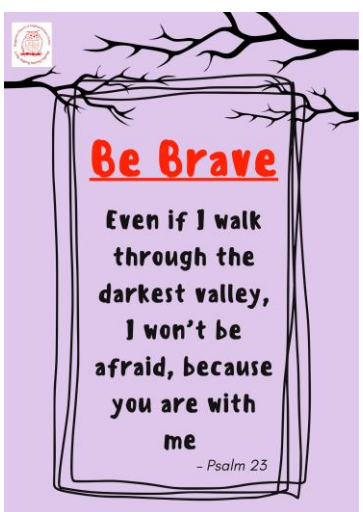
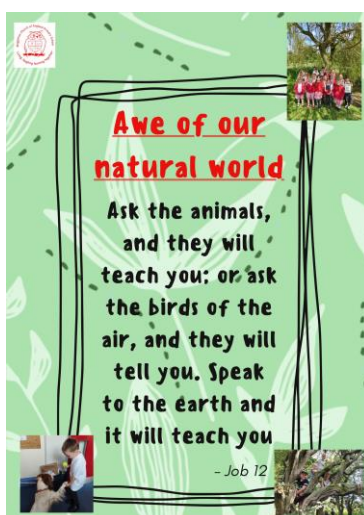
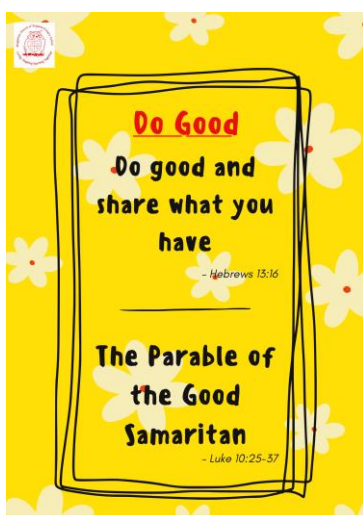
What are we doing here?

How then shall we live and learn together?

'Love Your Neighbour as You Love Yourself' (Matthew: 22 38-40)

OUR VALUES ARE:

- **Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart** (*Galatians 3:23*)
- **Be brave** (*Even if I walk through the darkest valley, I won't be afraid, because you are with me, Psalm 23*)
- **Awe of our natural world** (*Job 12 'ask the animals, and they will teach you; or ask the birds of the air, and they will tell you. Speak to the earth, and it will teach you*)
- **Do Good** (*Hebrews 13: 16 'Do good and share what you have.' Parable of the Good Samaritan*)
- **Nurture ourselves and others** (*Parable of the Mustard Seed*)
- **Think Critically** (*Philippians 4:8 'Fix your thoughts on what is true, honourable and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise.'*)



Who are we?

- Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School with individual Governing Body
- Partnered with Derbyshire Diocese of Education
- Links with Derbyshire Local Authority as a maintained school
- NOR: 62. Disadvantaged children – 7%. SEND – 11% EHCP pupils 0 (1 application pending)
- Rural, village school in Victorian building
- Aim to be a second family to our children, Living, Laughing and Learning Together. Three 'Golden Threads'
 - 1) Love of Sport
 - 2) Love of nature, animals & the outdoors
 - 3) Love of creativity and music
- Our last SIAMS Inspection was in [Summer 2016](#)

The distinctiveness and effectiveness of Mugginton Church of England (VC) Primary School as a Church of England school are outstanding

- Passionate Christian leadership which recognises the potential of all resulting in optimum growth in individuals and the school.
- A strong sense of Christian community, which drives all school activity explicitly impacting on relationships, well-being and children's achievement.
- High quality religious education (RE) which promotes enthusiastic learning and spiritual development.
- Effective governors who share a commitment to the Christian distinctiveness of the school ensuring that Christian values guide all decision making.

Context, including contextual challenges

- Pupil numbers have increased from 38 (2016) to 62 (2024). Many of our families have chosen Mugginton as their school despite living outside our catchment. This has created a greater diversity of children/families in school – our strength.
- As a result of this unique setup, Staff have developed our own, bespoke curriculum on a four-year plan. Each term begins with a 'Big Idea', for example, 'What Makes a Hero?' This theme runs throughout school, encompassing our Christian values and allowing for the most individualised learning experience possible.
- Links with the church, at times, have been challenging to maintain because of the lack of a Vicar. School leaders & the community have had to work together to reinforce and celebrate our Christian Distinctiveness in our half-termly services
- Space is at a premium! Leaders have to think creatively to offer the curriculum we have created. This involves trips to Padel tennis, local secondary schools for PE lessons and travel to all sporting fixtures (at least bi-weekly)
- Securing governors, including Foundation Governors (no vicar in post) is a challenge
- Mugginton is in a relatively affluent area of Derbyshire. However, the school has welcomed families from all over the county. The cost of living crisis has affected our families as it has others. However, because of our unique situation, there is a sense amongst leaders that it can be difficult for families to 'ask for help' when required. School works tirelessly to establish meaningful, open relationships with families to offer support when necessary.

What are we doing here?

Mugginton Church of England Primary School believes that all pupils, their families and the wider community should be given every opportunity to fulfil their potential through education. We recognise that everyone is unique and holds equal, intrinsic value. We want to create happiness and good in our school through love. In our environment, everybody can flourish and become their best self – a little mustard seed growing into a great tree where birds can nest (Parable of the Mustard Seed). We aim to produce confident, independent thinkers and learners able to flourish in an ever-changing world.

- ❖ Building our school community based on the most important thing, Love.
'Love your neighbour, as you love yourself ([Values](#))
- ❖ Growing an Inspirational Learning Community by uniting our Christian Values with our Three Golden Threads: ([About our School](#))
Love of Nature, animals and the outdoors
Love of sport
Love of music, the arts & being creative
- Staff have developed our own, bespoke curriculum on a four-year plan. Each term begins with a 'Big Idea', for example, 'What Makes a Hero?' This theme runs throughout school, encompassing our Christian values and allowing for the most individualised learning experience.
- Our growing school community (*in numbers and diversity*) is supported in partnership by school and church
- We are proud to be a 'stand-alone' maintained Church school and are proud of our unique identity as a second family to our children. Our identity is built on welcoming others (over 50% of children began primary school at another setting) and nurture – from little mustard seeds in reception to great trees in Year 6.
- The Governing Body has committed Foundation Governors who support the school's Christian distinctiveness and are well-known to children
- We aim for Collective Worship to be the heartbeat of our school. Daily Worship led by senior staff or children, including our Collective Worship Lead Pupil. The Christian Values form the focus of each Worship (see timetable on Our Church School page of school website).
- Collective Worship is an opportunity for us to live our Christian Distinctiveness. We aim to nurture our pupils to grow through experiences of prayer, stillness, singing, worship and reflection.
- Our shared school definitions of Spirituality and Courageous Advocacy allow children to engage with complex matters in a child-appropriate manner, supported by their teachers.
- Our RE curriculum (<https://www.derbydbe.org/re/>) supports pupils to explore and develop understanding and respect for: Christianity, Hinduism, Sikhism, and Islam as world faiths. Approximately 60% of lesson-time is focused on Christianity, including major Christian festivals. Christianity as a global rather than a local faith is the emphasis in RE teaching.
- The school works closely with Derbyshire Diocese Education Team. Liz Seymour (Deputy Director) is a regular visitor and models and shares excellent practice in RE teaching and Collective Worship.
- The Headteacher has undertaken various Diocesan training including Headteacher Induction training; Understanding Christianity and Subject Leader briefings. The RE Leader attends the Diocesan RE Leaders network on a termly basis.

How then shall we live and learn together?

IQ1 How does the school's theologically rooted Christian vision enable pupils and adults to flourish?

- ✓ The school's Christian Values inform the school's Golden Rules for behaviour and conduct (written together with the children) throughout the school. These are displayed clearly and are focused upon on Friday Celebration Collective Worship. The Golden Rules are:
 - 1) *Treat others as you would like to be treated*
 - 2) *Take pride in everything you do*
 - 3) *Always be ready to listen and learn*
 - 4) *Be safe*
 - 5) *Show respect at all times*
- ✓ These are positively reinforced daily by staff through praise and the Behaviour policy; pupils receive Special Certificates for living our Values/Golden Rules during Celebration Worship.
- ✓ Values explored through Collective Worship themes. Pupil Voice Groups / Collective Worships have reviewed the school rules which are linked to the school's Values.
- ✓ Through the Parable of the Mustard Seed, older children are taught to take responsibility for the welfare of younger pupils. This is visible on a daily basis and one of the most wonderful aspects of our school.
- ✓ Our Theologically rooted Christian vision is celebrated daily in school. It is set out clearly on our school website and is identified clearly in our social media posts whenever possible.
- ✓ Parents with a strong religious faith are invited in to school to talk about what it means to, for example, be a Christian. Most recently, the Derbyshire Cricketer, Wayne Madsen, led a Collective Worship session discussing how faith helped him with his career as a professional sports person (see social media posts, 13.2.24)
- ✓ There are weekly staff meetings, Pupil Voice Groups termly and annual pupil, staff and family surveys
- ✓ Staff Development Meetings on RE: planning, assessing, Living Differences, Understanding Christianity.
- ✓ RE Leader attends termly Diocesan training events.
- ✓ The Governing Body reviews the SIAMS SEF twice yearly and Foundation Governors visit Collective Worships. In the previous academic year, our vicar led two Collective Worships.
- ✓ The Ex-Officio has spoken to staff, pupils, and parents about Mugginton as a Church School, and attended part of the RE / Collective Worship / Spirituality staff training.

IQ2 How does the curriculum reflect the school's theologically rooted Christian vision?

- ✓ Staff have developed our own, bespoke curriculum on a four-year plan. Each term begins with a 'Big Idea', for example, 'What Makes a Hero?' This theme runs throughout school, encompassing our Christian values and allowing for the most individualised learning experience possible.
- ✓ Our RE curriculum follows the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and incorporates the Understanding Christianity resources as required.
- ✓ Opportunities to explore and reflect upon the Christian Values are built in to RE long term plans and daily collective worship.
- ✓ Through the Parable of the Mustard Seed, older children are taught to take responsibility for the welfare of younger pupils. This is visible on a daily basis and one of the most wonderful aspects of our school.
- ✓ Each week includes whole school initiatives which require the children and staff to come together and live our Living, Laughing, Learning Together identity. Buddy Reading (Weds am, see social media) involves children being partnered with younger/colder children and to read together. Forest Friday (Fri PM) links directly to our Christian Values/Golden Threads – the entire school, split into four groups complete an afternoon of outdoor learning every week.

- ✓ Opportunities for parental & family involvement are built into the curriculum. Mrs Wallen's Love Books Library takes place every other Friday from 9am – infant parents & grandparents join the children in school to share books.
- ✓ The School Vision is based on the same theological roots as our Values and is summarised in the 'Living, Laughing, Learning Together' statement.
- ✓ Spiritual moments from across the curriculum and across the week are reflected on weekly during Celebration Worship. Sometimes using the '5 Moments'. Outstanding work and conduct is celebrated in each Fridays Collective Worship.
- ✓ English texts are read as a whole-class each term and are deliberately chosen to encourage pupils to look beyond themselves, develop empathy and ask deep questions. Currently, Impossible Creatures by Katharine Rundell.
- ✓ Strong focus on developing staff's pedagogical understanding and classroom practice, leads to consistently good practice and aspirational outcomes for the pupils. Outstanding outcomes and progress is secure over time and across the classrooms.
- ✓ We have arranged staffing to allow for a full-time, non-teaching SENCO and catch-up lead teacher, Mrs Dennis. She supports children with learning across the curriculum and focuses on behaviour/emotional outcomes alongside schoolwork to secure the best for each child.
- ✓ Leadership Team maintains SEND register and Pupil Groups overview. These pupils are discussed in detail at Pupil Progress Meetings.
- ✓ Additional learning interventions / groups / differentiation are discussed, planned, and implemented to ensure all pupils are engaged and making progress.

IQ3 How is Collective Worship enabling pupil and adults to flourish spiritually?

- ✓ All members of the school community are included and invited to take an active role in Collective Worship. Our Collective Worship Lead Pupil (Sophie) is involved in the planning of CW; leading CW and taking pupil voice on CW.
- ✓ Our display boards include 'Our Christian Values' and 'Spirituality'. These boards are referred to daily and the children are given time to reflect spiritually through music, imagery, scripture and prayer.
- ✓ Prayer, stillness, worship, and reflection are regular aspects of worship. Our Collective Worship policy identifies the elements of: Gathering; Engaging; Responding and Sending.
- ✓ Since January 2024, we have begun to use the principles of '[5 Moments](#)' (well summarised at this link) to engage pupils and staff in thinking spiritually. Our school definition/understanding of Spirituality is embedded and this '5 Moments' is the next step in promoting spirituality, particularly in younger children.
- ✓ The Collective Worship table/altar is a focal point during worship, is dressed in Anglican annual liturgical colours and holds a range of important symbols/artefacts
- ✓ Collective Worship regularly asks the pupils to consider their lives and experiences and to make links to Bible stories and the teachings of Jesus.
- ✓ The altar holds a basket of Prayer Pebbles. Each pebble has one of our Christian Values written on it. Children choose a pebble at random and think of an opening or closing prayer based on the value they have selected.
- ✓ Singing is a regular part of Collective Worship. We work hard to offer the children a wide variety of singing opportunities from traditional hymns to more modern songs. These are shared in our half-termly Church Services
- ✓ Foundation Governor supports the school in the planning of Collective Worship and role models for staff different and effective ways of leading worship.
- ✓ Staff training / discussions re Collective Worship.

IQ4 How does the school's theologically rooted Christian vision create a culture in which pupils and adults are treated well?

- ✓ We live our values. This is best demonstrated by visiting the school and experiencing our 'Mugginton-ness'.
- ✓ School operates a genuine open-door policy. Staff, including the Headteacher, greet a family member of each child face-to-face every day.
- ✓ Through the Parable of the Mustard Seed, older children are taught to take responsibility for the welfare of younger pupils. This is visible on a daily basis and one of the most wonderful aspects of our school.
- ✓ Weekly Celebration Worship, highlight and celebrate achievements from across the school community.
- ✓ Pupil Voice Groups give pupils a genuine say in aspects of school life: such as learning, behaviour and lessons. It has also been a vehicle for them to give feedback e.g. about class 'Special Books'.
- ✓ PSHE (referred to as Personal Development) is led and taught extremely well. It was very positively commented upon in our most recent Ofsted Report (Jan 31st 2023).
- ✓ Additional support is provided for pupils as required. There are further external support systems used if required (*Behaviour Support Team, Educational Psychologist, Speech & Language Team, School Nursing Team, Derbyshire SEND team, Autism Outreach*).
- ✓ Our school aims to be a 2nd family to all and believes that every member of our community holds a unique and intrinsic value. Even the difficult ones! This means we never 'give up' on another person; that we might have to go above and beyond to secure the best for our children in aspects from Safeguarding, to academia, to family support. Support for and focus on staff workload and wellbeing is a fixed item in governor meetings.
- ✓ The 'High Challenge, High Support, Low Threat' principles adopted by school leaders aims for optimal development of all staff - supporting and nurturing all colleagues (see SIP for monitoring timetable and other improvement initiatives.)
- ✓ Whole school initiatives such as Safer Internet Day; International Holocaust Memorial Day; International Womens Day and Anti-Bullying week (known as Kindness Week at Mugginton) are key focus-points of the year. During Kindness Week this year, the children delivered handmade gifts and cards to the local community to 'spread love and kindness to all'.

IQ5 How does the school's theologically rooted Christian vision create an active culture of justice and responsibility?

- ✓ The [Behaviour policy](#) is rooted in our Values and Christian Vision (see Intent page 3). Staff demonstrate positive role modelling; Forgiveness is shown when apologies are given and efforts are made to learn from mistakes; the school community is a family and all hold value within it. Everyone can grow and develop as thoughtful and considerate people.
- ✓ To promote the idea of Christianity as a global faith and Courageous Advocacy, we have established links with a school in Tanzania, East Meru. All juniors have been challenged with completing an Enterprise project which involves their group thinking of an idea; developing a business plan; receiving 'investment' from school; executing the plan and donating all profit to East Meru.
- ✓ Alongside our work with the Padley Charity (donations from Harvest Service) we have made links (through parents) with The Derby City Mission and Derbyshire Refugee Solidarity – our visit to the latter was a highlight of last year.
- ✓ Pupil Voice Groups (Faith Council) encourage children to consider ethical choices and how they can bring about morally driven change
- ✓ Forest School and other outdoor initiatives such as the 'Great British Birdwatch'; gardening; Harvest and other charitable drives.

- ✓ School has two school dogs. Milly works Monday – Thursday and Monty works Friday. The dogs spend all day in school, listen to readers, chase their ball and help children when they are distressed. In turn, children are taught respect, love and appreciation for animals and the joy they bring us.
- ✓ Key messages from [“Valuing all God’s children”](#) shared with staff.
- ✓ PSHE curriculum has projects such as: ‘Valuing Difference’ and ‘Rights and Responsibilities.’
- ✓ SRE curriculum designed following parental consultation and includes projects such as: ‘Growing and changing’ and ‘My relationships & Me.’

IQ6 Is religious education effective?

- ✓ The RE curriculum aligns with the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus and incorporates the [“Understanding Christianity” programme](#). There are 8 core concepts in “Understanding Christianity” which underpin the teaching of and pupils’ learning about Christianity as a world faith. As a curriculum it also promotes greater engagement with the Bible as a text. The Collective Worship Bible Story Timetable informs this too.
- ✓ RE overview provides clarity/support for teachers and progression for pupils. This links to the assessment focus and Big Idea for each half-term and the individualized lessons planned and taught by staff. This information (in the form of work scrutiny and pupil voice) is used by the RE Leader to evaluate standards in RE across the school.
- ✓ RE Leader leads training and provides additional feedback in staff meetings from her subject leader briefings and training.
- ✓ RE Leader has an annual Action Plan, has shared summary posters of Ofsted RE Subject review, has clarified the Intent – Implementation – Impact of RE for all staff, and attends termly Diocesan training.

IQ7 What is the quality of religious education?

- ✓ The RE Policy is shared with all staff and on the school website
- ✓ Each term a bespoke RE Knowledge Organiser is written and published on the school website; a copy given to each child and copies sent home to our families so they know exactly what learning is going to take place. Knowledge Organisers are displayed prominently around school.
- ✓ Half-termly Church Services are open to the community and reinforce liturgical structure and our core Christian Values as we Live, Laugh and Learn together.
- ✓ We have strong links with St Nicholas Church in Allestree and take part in their Christmas and Easter Experience each year.
- ✓ Subject Portfolios evidence examples of expected and greater depth learning
- ✓ The RE Leader monitors RE planning and provide feedback and advice to Phase teams
- ✓ Teacher Assessment judgements are tracked through: work scrutiny; Knowledge Skills Assessment Journeys and standards monitored annually through the Subject Standards document

‘RE teaching is given high priority and standards are very good. Led by a committed and well informed subject leader, it is recognised as a core subject, making a significant contribution to the wider life of the school.....A range of creative and imaginative teaching strategies and reflection on ‘Big Questions’ promote deep thinking and children’s spiritual development.’ (SIAMS June 2016)