



St Mark's C.E. (A) Primary School

Loving to learn, Learning to Love.

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Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools

Dear Parents/Carers

On Thursday 28th April we had our Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools. We were inspected against four judgements and then awarded the overall judgement of **OUTSTANDING**. We are extremely pleased to share the outcomes and some quotes from the final report as follows:

The distinctiveness and effectiveness St Mark's CE (V) Primary School, Shelton as a Church of England school are **OUTSTANDING**

- Christian love, care and nurture makes every child in school feel special, valued and included and this extends to embrace their families.
- The strong and dedicated leadership of the executive headteacher, supported by staff and governors, together embedding Christian values and relationships in all areas of school life.
- The Muslim community which is welcomed, included and celebrated without compromising the Christian love and values at the heart of school life.
- Strong links with the local church that enriches the school's spiritual life.
- Strong and well-resourced leadership of religious education (RE) and worship.

The school, through its distinctive Christian character, is **OUTSTANDING** at meeting the needs of all learners

Quotes from the report include:-

At St Mark's CE Primary School pupils, staff and parents are included and valued and staff explain that the needs of pupils are "paramount in all that we do".

Children's welfare and spiritual development are given the highest priority. The school's powerful vision is owned and modelled by the whole community, meaning that behaviour is

consistently excellent. Pupils have a real pride in their school and speak with passion about the school's mission to promote respect and equality.

They (the pupils) rise to the challenges that life at St Mark's offers and are great ambassadors for the school, realising that they are offered 'life opportunities' through their learning.

The impact of collective worship on the school community is GOOD

Collective Worship has an important place in the life of St Mark's and has a strong role in developing pupils' personal spirituality. A range of whole school and class worship experiences ensure that the content is relevant and age appropriate.

The effectiveness of the religious education is GOOD

The best teaching is characterised by an interactive approach where children are active learners and confident risk takers. Lessons explore 'big-life questions' through informed debate and discussion.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school is OUTSTANDING

The team of committed staff and strong and knowledgeable governing body led by an inspirational executive headteacher ensures that leadership is strong and inclusive at all levels.

The following areas have been identified by the inspector for further development:

Areas to Improve

- Include the school community in monitoring and evaluating the impact of collective worship and work with pupils to further enrich their experiences and involvement.
- Accelerate progress by ensuring that work in RE supports and stretches all pupils' abilities.
- Provide further opportunities to enrich RE by exploring the diversity of belief and visiting different places of worship.

Can I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support and contributions to our very first **OUTSTANDING** judgement for SIAMS.

Yours sincerely

Michelle Johnstone
Executive Headteacher

The full SIAMS report is available to download from our website, saintmarksprimary.org.uk or a paper copy can be obtained from the school office.