Subject: School Christian Character/Distinctiveness website audit

From: Ryan Parker, RE & Christian Ethos Adviser/SIAMS Manager   **Date:** 24 April 2019

For: Headteachers and Chairs of Governors   **Reference:** SIAMS 2/18-19

SCHOOL CHRISTIAN CHARACTER/DISTINCTIVENESS WEBSITE AUDIT

The new SIAMS framework has drawn increasing attention towards the information on school websites. SIAMS inspectors, as well as other stakeholders, often try to gather as much information as they can from the school website which informs their 'first impression'. Many have found it a valuable exercise to audit the content of their website as well as the visibility of the school's vision and the range of things that relate to this. Attached is an audit which, as a governing body, you may find useful when looking at your website's construction, content and images.

Note that this 'best practice' audit is additional to the existing statutory content (maintained schools) and advisory content (academies) that schools should publish on their websites. The Department for Education's lists of what schools must/should publish online are below:

- www.gov.uk/guidance/what-maintained-schools-must-publish-online

- www.gov.uk/guidance/what-academies-free-schools-and-colleges-should-publish-online

If you would like to discuss the Christian Character/Distinctiveness website audit in further detail, please feel free to contact me by emailing rparker@stalbans.anglican.org or call 07508 802198.

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School website audit – Church School Character/Distinctiveness

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(For strong examples which might support your thinking, see www.cranfieldchurchofenglandacademy.co.uk/ and www.staugustinesacademy.co.uk/)

	Strengths of our website/areas for improvement
Does your website clearly say 'who you are'? Is it obvious that you are a church school with a Christian vision and associated values from the home page?	
Is it easy to locate information about your vision, biblical narrative, associated values (and their theological basis), links with the church, previous SIAMS inspection, etc.? Could this be on a separate tab which would make it easier to find?	
Does other information articulate how it is underpinned by a demonstration of the school's vision? E.g. newsletter items? Policies?	
Is there detailed information about RE? Is the RE yearly overview up to date? On long-term curriculum plans, is RE mentioned and coverage and timings shown? Is the RE policy on the website?	
Is information about RE and Collective Worship kept separate? Is there an explanation of how they differ in nature and style?	