

Subject: Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

From: Jane Chipperton

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For: Headteachers and Chairs of Governors

Reference: SIAMS 2/17-18

New Evaluation Schedule for Schools and Inspectors (September 2018)

The new evaluation schedule focuses on vision, ensuring that the school's Christian vision impacts in ways which enable the whole school community to flourish. The new documents and grade descriptors can be found here: www.churchofengland.org/more/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-school-inspections/new-siams

Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS)

The inspection of church schools under section 48 of the Education Act 2005

The new framework for inspection of church schools will come into operation from September 2018. Training for this has begun centrally and there will be a number of local school briefings on the new framework from May 2018 (please contact jchipperton@stalbans.anglican.org if you wish to host a training session for staff and governors).

All schools due an inspection *before* September 2018 will be inspected under the current framework <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/schools/inspections-sias-siams/>

Due to the training of schools around the Diocese, there will be no SIAMS inspections in the autumn term 2018. All schools due to be inspected during the autumn term will be inspected in spring 2019.

Inspectors will grade the school on the following question:

How effective is the school's distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?

This question is explored through the following seven strands:

I. Vision and Leadership

This strand looks at: How well the school has developed and implemented an inclusive and distinctive Christian vision, monitoring its impact to ensure the school's original foundation is maintained. Also how well the school lives out that Christian vision in relationships and partnerships with key stakeholders.

2. Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills

This strand looks at: How well the school's leaders apply their Christian vision to ensure curriculum and extra-curricular opportunities meet the academic and spiritual needs of all learners.

3. Character Development: Hope, Aspiration, and Courageous Advocacy

This strand looks at: How well the school's Christian vision supports the character and moral development of all pupils, giving them aspiration for themselves and hope for the communities of which they are a part and how well the school's vision inspires the whole school community to engage in social action and to be courageous advocates for change in their local, national and global communities.

4. Community and Living Well Together

This strand looks at: How well the school's Christian vision promotes social and cultural development through the practice of forgiveness and reconciliation that encourages good mental health and enables all to flourish and live well together.

5. Dignity and Respect

This strand looks at: How well the school's Christian vision creates an environment that embraces difference where all pupils, whatever their background or ability, can flourish because all are treated with dignity and respect.

6. The Impact of Collective Worship

This strand looks at: The ways in which collective worship is an expression of the school's Christian vision. In developing collective worship that is inclusive, invitational and inspiring, the school needs to evaluate all aspects of worship as listed in the evaluation schedule.

7. The Effectiveness of Religious Education

In a Church of England school, Religious Education (RE) should be non-confessional and is considered an academic subject. Inspectors will consider the expectations of the Locally Agreed Syllabus in VC schools and academies that were former VC schools.

This strand looks at: How effective the school is in ensuring pupils flourish through the provision of high-quality Religious Education reflecting the Church of England Statement of Entitlement. Also, how effective the school is in ensuring that Religious Education expresses the school's Christian vision.

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Documents underpinning the new SIAMS framework include:

1. Leadership of Character Education

- a. 'Developing Virtues and Celebrating Human Flourishing in Schools'
https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/CEFEL_LeadershipCharacter_Report_WEB-1.pdf
- b. Vision <https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/Church-of-England-Vision-for-Education-July-2016.pdf>

2. Religious Education

Statement of Entitlement for RE

https://www.stalbans.anglican.org/wp-content/uploads/re_statement_of_entitlement_ratified_national_society_council_june_16.pdf

3. Mental Health and Wellbeing: Towards a Whole School Approach

<https://www.churchofengland.org/sites/default/files/2018-04/Mental%20Health%20and%20Wellbeing%20Guidance.pdf>