



Governors' Report for September 2026

The report covers the period from September 2025 to September 2026

RE and Collective Worship

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Overview and main focus for the year:

The main focus during the 2025-26 year was to evaluate and strengthen RE and Collective Worship, with the January 2026 SIAMS inspection providing a clear external measure of impact and next steps. SIAMS recognised that RE is given high priority and that Collective Worship is central to school life. Following the inspection, a major piece of curriculum development has been completed: the RE curriculum has been rewritten in line with the Lincolnshire Agreed Syllabus 2025-30, with revised Curriculum Roadmap, clearer progression in substantive and disciplinary knowledge, more explicit attention to religions and worldviews, and stronger opportunities to explore diversity within and between traditions.

Collective Worship has continued to be structured around the school's Christian vision, "Teach children how they should live, and they will remember it all their life" (Proverbs 22:6), and our six Christian values. Daily Collective Worship follows the Gather-Engage-Respond-Send structure and provides regular opportunities for Bible teaching, reflection, prayer, song and pupil response.

CPD

Leadership development has been supported through the school's Service Level Agreement with the Lincoln Diocesan Board of Education and through diocesan guidance and training relating to RE, Collective Worship, Christian vision and spirituality. Visits to the school by Paul Thompson (Director of Education for Lincolnshire Diocese) and Lyndsey Norris (Assistant Director of Education for Lincolnshire Diocese) were valuable in both identifying several strengths across both RE and Collective Worship and providing guidance for future steps and collaboration with local schools. Learning from SIAMS preparation and inspection has also informed the subsequent curriculum review in RE. Key messages have been shared with staff through planning guidance and the revised Roadmaps so that expectations are increasingly consistent across year groups.



Several training courses linked to the new RE Lincolnshire Syllabus have been attended to ensure that we are up to date with current practise and these messages have been shared with staff.

- RE Planning Workshops
- RE And Lincolnshire Diocese Conference

- Regular RE Cluster Meetings
- Training on using Case Studies in the new RE curriculum.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Monitoring during the year has drawn on the SIAMS self-evaluation process, curriculum and planning review, book and work scrutiny, pupil voice, worship evaluations and evidence from learning walks and governor/Diocese visits. This has enabled us to identify both established strengths and the areas requiring further development. The SIAMS inspection confirmed that pupils build knowledge through a well-sequenced RE curriculum and that big questions and extension opportunities provide challenge and promote critical thinking.

The main RE development point identified by SIAMS was to deepen pupils' understanding of diversity within religions and worldviews, including Christianity as a global religion. This has directly informed the rewritten curriculum. A second whole-school development point concerned justice and injustice; this will be strengthened through both RE enquiries and Collective Worship during 2026-27.

Quality of teaching and Learning

RE is taught weekly and continues to have a clear enquiry-led structure. The revised curriculum is designed to move pupils beyond recalling facts towards explaining, comparing, interpreting sources and considering how beliefs shape values and actions. The Explore-Learn-Respond-Reflect lesson structure supports knowledge, discussion and spiritual reflection, while the revised Roadmap and Medium Term Plans make key vocabulary, progression and expected outcomes more explicit for teachers.

The SIAMS report noted that pupils are supported to reflect, question and discuss their own ideas and that the curriculum successfully develops knowledge across a breadth of religions and worldviews. The next stage is to embed the newly revised plans consistently and evaluate their impact on the depth and precision of pupils' responses.



Staff/pupil voice

Pupil voice gathered before and throughout the SIAMS process showed that children can articulate the school's Christian values and make meaningful links between Bible stories, their own lives and relationships. Pupils spoke positively about Collective Worship, particularly opportunities for reflection and singing together, and the SIAMS inspector noted that pupils could explain how worship influences their thoughts and everyday actions. Staff feedback and curriculum discussion have informed the redesign of RE so that planning is clearer, more progressive and better supports subject knowledge.

Data Analysis

RE is assessed on Insight through teacher judgement against the intended learning and outcomes within each unit. During 2025-26 the emphasis has been on strengthening the curriculum and moving onto the New Lincolnshire Syllabus, so assessment was completed based on the previous syllabus and whether the objectives were met or not met. The revised curriculum now gives clearer end points, vocabulary and knowledge expectations. During 2026-27 these will be used to support moderation, identify patterns across year groups and consider the progress of different pupil groups.

Enrichments

- Strong links with St Botolph's Church, St Denys and Lincoln Diocese, including key services and opportunities for pupils to experience the Christian year in an authentic context, Christingle, Harvest Festival, Easter, Year 4 Church Schools Festival, Year 6 Church Schools Festival.
- Regular 'Open the Book' worship led by Sleaford Churches Together, bringing Bible narratives to life through drama and storytelling.
- Pupil leadership through the St Botolph's Doves, who contribute to and lead Collective Worship.
- Christmas and Easter worship and performances, including church-based events, alongside the Year 6 Leavers' Service.
- Ongoing use of music, prayer, silence, reflection, real-life stories and current issues to connect worship with pupils' lives and the wider world.

Strengths

- SIAMS confirmed that the school is living up to its Church foundation and identified Worship as invitational, inclusive and inspiring.
- RE has high status within the school and is supported by a well-sequenced, ambitious curriculum with strong links to the school's vision.
- The school has acted promptly on SIAMS feedback through a full review and rewrite of the RE curriculum and Roadmaps.
- Collective Worship is a consistent daily feature of school life and provides meaningful opportunities for spiritual growth through reflection, prayer, song and pupil leadership.
- Partnerships with the Diocese, local churches, Sleaford Churches Together and governors strengthen both RE and Collective Worship.



Ways forward/Targets

- Embed the revised RE curriculum and Roadmaps across all year groups, with particular attention to diversity within religions and worldviews and Christianity as a global religion.
- Monitor the impact of the revised curriculum through planned book scrutiny, pupil voice and learning walks, focusing on knowledge retention, disciplinary thinking, vocabulary and progression.
- Strengthen opportunities in RE and Collective Worship for pupils to explore justice and injustice and to understand how beliefs can lead to positive action as local and global citizens.
- Develop RE assessment so that teacher judgements are increasingly consistent and can be analysed meaningfully across year groups and pupil groups in line with the New Syllabus.
- Continue to develop pupil leadership and evaluation of Collective Worship, building on the strong contribution of the St Botolph's Doves.

