Help with SIAMS SEF Writing

A short summary SEF will be requested by the inspector. The summary SEF and other evidence eg website, policies, request documents and activities on the day should give the inspector the evidence that they need to follow the lines of enquiry. It will also support the governing board, staff members. It is a celebration of the living out of your school’s Christian vision – what you do, think, plan and say because of your vision.

You can use your own template, there is no national template. We have made available two alternative templates that you may want to make use of. It is not statutory to write a SEF but it is good practice.

If you have, in addition, a long SEF which supports your work in school, you may share this with the inspector. This may be helpful but it is unlikely they will have time to read this in detail on the day of the inspection.

1) Consider how the Christian vision was formed in response to local needs – your context.

2) Examples of the impact of your Christian vision across all the 7 strands.

3) How the vision has helped the school to develop, address issues, solve problems and issues, celebrate successes, policies and the impact of these

4) How you see and interpret the Christian vision in your own work.

5) Keep your summary SEF short and focus on impact.

6) Make a brief reference to context where appropriate, if helpful.

7) A useful sentence starter could be…”Because of our Christian vision…”

8) Do not grade each strand

9) Make an overall judgement; plus additional collective worship grade

10) If VA school make RE judgement

Additional suggestion: make notes of examples across each strand of examples of excellence because of your vision

- Deep, Christ-vision-driven thought and discussion
- Innovative, exemplary and courageous action
- Life-changing, life-lasting transformational impact

The Diocese of Gloucester, Education Team have also put together a SIAMS audit tool/SEF which schools may find helpful as a longer SEF and approach to supporting monitoring of the Christian vision.