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**SHREWSBURY**

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## **REPORT ON THE MONITORING INSPECTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS**

### **THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

School:	St Anne's Catholic Primary School
Address:	6 Highfield South Rock Ferry Birkenhead Wirral CH42 4NE
Tel No:	0151 645 3682
URN:	105088
Headteacher:	Mrs Rachel Crisp
Chair of Governors:	Father Bernard Forshaw
Date of Inspection:	9 November 2015
Inspector:	Mrs Carol Morgan

## **Areas of Outstanding Practice**

### **Outcomes for Pupils**

Thanks to the outstanding pastoral care and the excellent opportunities provided for their learning, pupils are seen to be happy and well-behaved, showing respect for each other and for the adults around them. They engage positively in the lesson activities, working well in teams and individually. Pupils' books show a range of differentiated work and pupils respond appropriately to the marking, which identifies next steps and is closely aligned to the assessment focus.

Pupils are very involved in the Catholic life of the school through Collective Worship, School and Parish Masses, Sacramental programmes and the excellent opportunities provided for prayer and reflection within the classroom and in dedicated rooms within the school.

Fund-raising activities for local, national and global charities have a high focus and pupils are closely involved in planning and supporting these. A charity formed and run by an ex pupil is the focus of much of their work and gives a meaningful and personal context to their fundraising. There is a vibrant 'Minnie Vinnies' group who were able to speak with confidence about their role as fundraisers, their spiritual life and their links with the parish.

Pupils speak highly of their school; they try their best to act in ways that show they are followers of Christ, respecting and loving one another and forgiving each other when things go wrong.

The excellent progress made by the school in the assessment of Religious Education has contributed to the rising trend in the attainment of the majority of pupils.

### **Leaders, Governors and Managers**

St. Anne's is led by an inspirational Headteacher, supported by a highly motivated Senior Leadership Team, which works in close partnership with deeply committed and hard-working governors. The pro-active Parish Priest and link governors are very well-informed and governors understand the school's context extremely well. A Parent Governor is actively involved in planning, promoting and celebrating the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural aspects of the curriculum.

The subject lead provides exceptional leadership and support through guidance, monitoring and evaluation and assessment for the Religious Education curriculum. The school works closely with the local cluster of Catholic schools to develop and refine assessment procedures, which are exemplary. The Religious Education Action plan is clear and strategic. A Liturgical Leader has been appointed to drive forward the school's plans for Collective Worship and Liturgy, which should involve developing further opportunities for pupils to lead liturgical celebrations.

Leaders and governors have clear plans for succession and all are involved in the self-evaluation, assessment and strategic planning for the development of the Religious Education curriculum and the Catholic life of the school. They have addressed the two areas for improvement identified in the last inspection with determination and vision. As a result, governors, staff and pupils' understanding of the mission of the school is outstanding.

### **Provision**

St. Anne's provides a stimulating learning environment throughout the school, where all its pupils grow, learn and love together in harmony. The school has produced a completely new Mission Statement around their '5 Rs' (Responsible, Respect, Resilient, Ready and Resourceful) formulated by pupils, staff and governors, and where Christ is the role model for all they undertake.

The pastoral care provided is excellent and teachers and staff are available before school for 'Cherish the Chat', where pupils are able to share any concerns, news and discuss whatever they wish.

Teaching across the school embodies a range of different styles and creative contexts for learning. The majority of teaching is at least good and much is outstanding. Any area for concern is quickly identified and addressed immediately. Planning for every Religious Education lesson addresses Attainment Targets 1 and 2. High quality resources, including technology, are used to motivate and challenge pupils. Marking and assessment procedures are exemplary and ensure that pupils learn exceptionally well and make good progress from their starting point. Assessment procedures are very clear and are firmly embedded, ensuring pupils know what they have to do to make good progress.

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural aspects of education have a high priority and are addressed in every subject as well as in Religious Education.

Collective Worship is of central importance and is a key part of every school celebration. Liturgies are planned following the seasons of The Church and for key anniversaries relevant to the school, the parish and its staff and pupils. The school strives to involve parents in all aspects of school life.