



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

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## SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School: St Patrick's Catholic Primary School  
Address: North Road  
Wellington  
Telford  
Shropshire  
TF1 3ER

Tel No: 01952 386160

URN: 123555

Headteacher: Mrs S Coggins

Chair of Governors: Mrs G Kendrick

Date of Inspection: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017

Inspectors: Mr K Toms  
Mrs E Inman

# St Patrick's Catholic Primary School



## **Our Mission Statement is:**

*'We work, we love, we learn, we pray,  
We spread the Gospel message every day.'*

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll	26	28	30	43	32	31	31	30	251
Catholics on roll	15	21	25	34	20	21	20	18	174
Other Christian denomination	4	5	4	4	4	7	6	7	32
Other faith background	1	1	0	3	1	2	2	3	11
No stated religious affiliation	6	1	1	2	7	1	3	2	16
Number of learners from ethnic groups	11	16	10	16	10	12	7	7	89
Total on SEN Register	2	1	2	7	9	7	7	6	41
Total with Statements of SEN					1		2		3
FSM	4	1	2	2	4	1	3	3	20

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	0
Index of multiple deprivation				

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
St Patrick's	161
St Mary's, Madeley	9
Our Lady of the Rosary	2
Market Drayton	1

With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred	
PUPILS TRANSFER	
Name of School	No of Pupils
Holy Trinity Academy	6

RE TEACHING TIME	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Total RE teaching time (Hours) -- per week		1	2	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	9
Part-time teachers	4
Total full-time equivalent	11
Support assistants	11
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	36%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	9
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	1
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	0

NAME OF SCHOOL	
Published admission number	30
Number of classes	9
Average class size KS1	30
Average class size KS2	32

## FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2015/2016	Current financial year 2016/2017	Next financial year 2017/2018
RE	£442	£300	£500
English	£3962	£1647	£1500
Mathematics	£586.86	£366.30	£1500
Science	Enthuse grant £12000		

<b>Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate</b>	<b>Judgement</b>
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<b>OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>The pupils at Saint Patrick's make an outstanding contribution to the Catholic life of the school. They are extremely confident in talking about the importance of their Catholic tradition and the part it plays in their lives. During the inspection, the children very effectively led the Collective Act of Worship and were obviously skilled in selecting appropriate resources and passages from scripture to support their Lenten reflections. The children approached the assembly with sincere prayerfulness and reverence and very effectively involved all the children in their Lenten service. Similarly, children in one of the lessons observed prepared their own prayers and reflections. They knew how to select readings, focal points and prayers to support the theme of the lesson. The children understood the need to be sensitive and inclusive of children of different faiths and backgrounds. One pupil from a different faith background made a particular point of explaining how welcome he felt in this inclusive community. The children displayed a very mature and sensitive approach to each other, readily praying for the needs of others and seeking to help all through their prayer services and their charitable work, both in the local and global community.</p> <p>All the pupils were very enthusiastic about their Religious Education lessons. They enjoyed the variety of different approaches and creativity of their lessons. The children felt it was important to discover more about their faith and liked the challenge of looking more deeply into their beliefs. They spoke confidently about Jesus and the Gospel message being central to the school's mission statement and were able to make direct links to how this underpins their daily lives.</p> <p>Attainment is good throughout the school and their responses to the Catholic life of the school outstanding. The children are immensely proud of their Catholic faith community and show considerable politeness and concern for each other and to visitors to the school. Their behaviour and responses in lessons and around the school is outstanding. They are to be commended for the way they respect each other and the welcome they extend to others.</p>	

<b>LEADERS AND MANAGERS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>Leaders and managers are outstanding in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The Headteacher has a very clear vision for the school, firmly rooted in the Church's mission. This permeates through the whole school, inspiring all staff and children to place spiritual development at the forefront of all that they do. This is evident in the way the prayer life and liturgical celebrations are developed as a real partnership between staff and children. The Headteacher, together with the newly appointed Religious Education Coordinator, know their school very well. They have carefully developed a monitoring and evaluation system which allows them to give direction and purpose to improve the outcomes for all children still further. Although new to her post, the Religious Education Coordinator has already made a significant contribution to the school. She has already adapted and developed resources such as her own version of the "Wednesday Word" to more accurately reflect the needs of the school community. The whole Leadership Team is driven by a desire to seek new ways to develop the faith life of the school. The school has experienced a period of staff changes and the management team remain committed to supporting and developing the skills of newly appointed staff in the teaching of Religious Education. The governing body, exemplified by the commitment and dedication of the Chair of Governors, are a dedicated team. They continually seek good appointments to key roles and in helping all others to dedicate themselves to the Catholic ethos of the school.</p> <p>The Headteacher plays a central role in supporting inset in the wider Diocesan family, always seeking creative and new ways to support the learning of children and staff within the Catholic community.</p>	

Parents show overwhelming support for the work of the school and responded well to the recent questionnaires on the Catholic Life of the school.

The enthusiasm and commitment of the leadership team is very well reflected in the way the children respond to and take their own lead in the prayer life of the school. The children responded well to the Lenten themes and the ways in which prayer and alms giving supports all people in need.

PROVISION	2
<p>The teaching and learning through the school was seen to be at least good, with some examples of outstanding practice. Children were extremely polite and well behaved throughout and showed a great enthusiasm for their Religious Education lessons. They settled quickly to their tasks, showed a good understanding of prior learning and were keen to extend their learning. IT and other resources are used very effectively to support learning. The prayer corners and Religious Education displays were vibrant, reflecting many creative ideas to promote the Lenten themes. Teaching assistants were extremely supportive during lessons, particularly with those children needing extra support. As one of the children remarked, "I have come so far because all the teachers in my school always push me to do the very best." It was very clear in discussions with the children how much they appreciate all the staff do for them and how they feel able to work independently to develop their own spiritual and prayer life, as well as getting to know more of the Gospel message.</p> <p>The Headteacher and Religious Education Coordinator are driving forward the principles of creativity in the curriculum and, where resources do not meet the school's needs, have ably developed new materials to support the learning process, always within the framework of the guidelines of Catholic Directory. As a result, the children remain highly motivated and their responses are outstanding as a consequence of the provision made for them.</p> <p>Collective Acts of Worship are outstanding, they seamlessly reflect the liturgical and seasonal life of the church and allow all children to participate and take appropriate age related leads. Pupils from other faith backgrounds felt at ease within these celebrations.</p> <p>All staff and children placed the prayer life of the school at the centre of all they do.</p> <p>Again, in the children's own words, one of the children summarised it as follows:          "Our Headteacher has always set us an impeccable example. I choose to follow because I care, I want to do the very best with everything I have in this school."</p>	

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS	1
<p>St. Patrick's is an outstanding Catholic Primary School, totally committed to promoting the Church's mission, perfectly summarised in its Mission Statement:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"We work, we love, we learn, we pray, We spread the Gospel every day."</i></p> <p>The children make an outstanding contribution to the Catholic Life of the School. They speak with great confidence about the place their faith and tradition plays in their lives and show immense leadership qualities in leading independently their own prayers, reflections and collective Acts of Worship. They are highly sensitive to and tolerant of the belief systems of others. They strive to live out their Mission Statement in their daily lives. They all make good, and in some cases, outstanding progress in Religious Education.</p> <p>Leaders and Managers know their school very well and are outstanding in promoting their vision for the Catholic Life of the School. Governors, as exemplified in the Chair, are committed to appointing staff sympathetic to the Catholic ethos of the school and supporting all staff with development and training opportunities. The Governors are actively involved in monitoring the teaching of Religious Education. All are committed to raising standards of attainment for all children, especially the</p>	

challenge they offer to the more able. The effective monitoring and evaluation systems will help them further with this task.

The provision for the Catholic life of the school is good overall and the school rightly seeks ways to use their creative and innovative approaches to the Religious Education curriculum to raise standards further still. The vision and the enthusiasm of the Headteacher and Religious Education Coordinator are driving forward this creative approach and ensuring the children remain enthusiastic and keen to take up these challenges.

The appointment of a new Deputy Headteacher to this highly effective team ensures the school has an outstanding capacity to improve.

**What the school could do to improve further**

- Continue to raise standards through more targeted monitoring and observations of Religious Education lessons
- Share good and outstanding practice through the school to help all staff plan for next steps to challenge the learning of all pupils

**Parents' Questionnaires**  
**118 Parents returned questionnaires**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child enjoys school	85	33			
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	92	26			
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	88	30			
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	75	39			4
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	70	41	2	2	3
6	The school enables my children to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	80	31	2	1	3
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	72	30	4	1	3

**Pupil Questionnaires (Year 2)**

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	I like being at this school.	18	8	
2	I learn new things in Religious Education lessons.	18	6	2
3	I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.	21	4	1
4	I have to work hard.	24	1	1
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	19	6	1
6	My teacher listens to me.	23	3	
7	When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.	22	3	1
8	I get praise when I do my best.	21	4	1
9	Other children are kind and behave well	16	10	
10	I am happy on the playground.	12	12	2
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	17	7	2
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	21	4	1

**Pupil Questionnaires (Year 6)**

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	Do you like being at this school?	25	4	1
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	21	8	1
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	19	9	2
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	26	4	
5	Do you have to work hard?	23	6	1
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	26	4	
7	Do other children behave well?	8	21	1
8	Are teachers fair to you?	28	2	
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	27	3	
10	Are you given responsibility?	25	5	
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	27	3	