



DIOCESE OF  
**SHREWSBURY**

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SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| School:             | St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School     |
| Address:            | Calve Croft Road<br>Wythenshawe<br>M22 5EU |
| Tel No:             | 0161 437 3890                              |
| URN:                | 105542                                     |
| Headteacher:        | Mrs L Kelly                                |
| Chair of Governors: | Mrs J Speak                                |
| Date of Inspection: | 26 June 2013                               |
| Inspectors:         | Mrs E Robb<br>Mr P Sharp                   |



## MISSION STATEMENT

In our school we recognise Jesus at the heart of all we do.

Our school is a happy and safe place where everyone is challenged to do their very best in both work and play.

Our family community includes home, school, parish and the local neighbourhood.

As Children of God we value, respect and love each other and celebrate our differences.

We say sorry, support and forgive each other as Jesus showed us.

We welcome and support those in need.

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**School Motto:**

*"Let your Light Shine"*

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

| Pupils                                | FS (All FT) |     | Y1 | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y6 | Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
|                                       | FS1         | FS2 |    |    |    |    |    |    |       |
| Number on roll                        | 29          | 29  | 29 | 26 | 26 | 22 | 18 | 29 | 208   |
| Catholics on roll                     | 20          | 14  | 17 | 15 | 16 | 10 | 8  | 16 | 116   |
| Other Christian denomination          | 0           | 4   | 0  | 0  | 2  | 1  | 1  | 0  | 8     |
| Other faith background                | 5           | 5   | 5  | 5  | 3  | 5  | 3  | 7  | 38    |
| No stated religious affiliation       | 4           | 6   | 7  | 6  | 5  | 6  | 6  | 6  | 46    |
| Number of learners from ethnic groups | 10          | 7   | 8  | 3  | 3  | 4  | 2  | 2  | 39    |
| Total on SEN Register                 | 0           | 5   | 5  | 4  | 6  | 6  | 5  | 10 | 41    |
| Total with Statements of SEN          | 0           | 0   | 1  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 0  | 1  | 2     |
| FSM                                   | 7           | 7   | 8  | 11 | 14 | 7  | 7  | 12 | 73    |

|                                  |            |   |            |   |
|----------------------------------|------------|---|------------|---|
| Exclusions in last academic year | Permanent  | 0 | Fixed term | 0 |
| Index of multiple deprivation    | Ranked - 1 |   |            |   |

| PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL                            |              |
|--|--------------|
| Name of Parish   | No of Pupils |
| St. Elizabeth's in the Parish of Our Lady Queen of Peace | 127          |
|  |              |
|  |              |

| With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred |              |
|--|--------------|
| Name of School   | No of Pupils |
| PUPILS TRANSFER  | 21 in cohort |
| St. Paul's Catholic High School  | 13           |
| St. James' Catholic High School  | 4            |
| Blessed Thomas Holford   | 2            |

| RE TEACHING TIME               | FS | Y1  | Y2  | Y3  | Y4  | Y5  | Y6  | Total |
|--------------------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Total RE teaching time (Hours) | 2* | 2.4 | 2.4 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 16.8  |

\* RE is also included in Continuous Provision within the EYFS

| STAFFING                                      |         |
|---|---------|
| Full-time teachers                            | 8       |
| Part-time teachers                            | 4       |
| Total full-time equivalent                    |         |
| Support assistants                            | 10      |
| Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.        | 9 (75%) |
| How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.         | 11      |
| Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent    | 5       |
| Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS | 0       |

|                            |      |
|----------------------------|------|
| Published admission number | 30   |
| Number of classes          | 8    |
| Average class size KS1     | 27.5 |
| Average class size KS2     | 23.8 |

## FINANCIAL DATA

| EXPENDITURE (£) | Last financial year<br>2011/12 | Current financial year<br>2012/13 | Next financial year<br>2013/14 |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RE              | £2000                          | £1000                             | £2000                          |
| English         | £2500                          | £3000<br>(£1000 for library)      | £2000                          |
| Mathematics     | £1000                          | £2000                             | £1000                          |
| Science         | £500                           | £500                              | £500                           |

|   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| <b>Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate</b> | <b>Judgement</b> |
|---|------------------|

|                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| <b>OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS</b> | <b>1</b> |
|----------------------------|----------|

The children at St Elizabeth's Catholic Primary School enjoy their Religious Education lessons. They respond very well to the objectives set and translate these into the Catholic mission of the Church.

Excellent progress is made by all children including those children with particular learning needs.

The children have access to information which inspires them, for example the Spring Term Super Learning week which focussed on Inspirational People, such as Nelson Mandela and Malala Usafzai. During this event, a member of Manchester University Race Relations Team led an assembly, the children learnt how these people overcame prejudice and made a difference to the lives of others. In discussion with the School Council it was evident that children are very much aware of how one's own actions can have a positive or negative effect on others. The recently established Mini Vinnie's Group are already making an impact in their school by organising fund raising activities for those in need both in and around St Elizabeth's school community.

The School Mission Statement which begins with "In our school we recognise Jesus at the heart of all we do." is displayed throughout the school and children are familiar with and aware of its significance. The school motto "Let your light shine" is reinforced and celebrated in special assemblies where children are responsible for nominating someone to receive the Shining Light award. The Sacramental preparation has a high profile. This is parish based and supported by the school.

Pupil voice plays a significant role throughout the school community and finds expression in the School Council, the Mini Vinnies, the Wildlife Councillors, International Councillors, PE Councillors, Librarians and the Anti -Bullying Group. Older children are given responsibility for looking after younger children and helping all children to work and play well together.

During Collective Worship, observed by the inspectors, the children displayed enjoyment, reverence and respect. They listened with interest and their behaviour was excellent. The children experience a range of ways to pray including silence, reflection and song.

From a low starting point on entry, children make excellent progress and current tracking of pupil performance outcomes confirms that attainment in Religious Education is generally in line with attainment in English in each year group. Assessment and moderation is thorough and all Staff work hard to ensure that work is engaging and well-matched to the needs of the children yet with appropriate elements of challenge.

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| <b>LEADERS AND MANAGERS</b> | <b>1</b> |
|-----------------------------|----------|

The Headteacher provides outstanding leadership and direction, vision and inspiration. Her drive for high expectations permeates throughout the whole school and is shared by members of the Senior Management Team and Governors. Leadership at all levels is committed to ensuring that every child has access to the best possible Catholic education. The Head teacher, members of the Senior Management Team and Governors have a secure overview of the school's strengths and areas for improvement. This is based on very effective strategies for self-evaluation; the outcomes of which inform the School Improvement Plan. The Religious Education Co-ordinator is knowledgeable and fulfils her role with skill. She is thorough in her observations and evaluations, and is supportive in the planning, organisation, assessment and moderation procedures of the Religious Education Curriculum.

Governors are very knowledgeable about, and dedicated to the school and make a significant contribution. There is clear evidence through written reports and discussion, that the Governors both individually and collectively take an active part in the life and development of the school. Individual subject Governors report on their subjects, visit lessons, study children's work, carry out learning walks, and report on their findings. Governors actively engage in and contribute to the school's self evaluation of Religious Education. The Religious Education Governor meets the Religious Education Co-ordinator regularly to discuss all aspects of the Religious Education curriculum. Consequently Governors are fully aware of the implications of developing the new Religious Education Curriculum,

the Way the Truth and the Life, and ensure that all Staff have access to the appropriate resources to support their teaching of Religious Education. The Governing Body hold a Mission and Visioning evening each year for parents, led by the Chair of Governors and Headteacher, where the School's Mission Statement is clearly outlined as the context through which all is achieved. The school's priorities are shared with parents and there is also an opportunity for parents to share their views and ideas.

Governors provide challenge and support to the Head and all Staff, sharing the responsibility and privilege in promoting the Catholic mission of the St Elizabeth's school.

| <b>PROVISION</b> | <b>1</b> |
|------------------|----------|
|------------------|----------|

The Religious Education curriculum "The Way, the Truth and the Life" is being successfully implemented. The Headteacher and Religious Education Co-ordinator regularly attend Diocesan meetings and are up to date with the latest requirements of the scheme. Information is effectively disseminated to Staff. The school strives for the highest quality teaching and promotes high standards in all aspects of its work. All Staff play a significant part in ensuring that the Gospel teachings and values are accessible to all children. They are committed to guiding and nurturing the children, overcoming any barriers which may be present.

Teachers plan effectively to ensure all aspects of Religious Education are implemented appropriately. As a result of thorough work scrutinies, lesson observations and assessments, challenging realistic targets are set and progress towards meeting targets is closely monitored. Teachers know their children well and ensure that the children are provided with the opportunities to be successful as they take the next steps in their learning. As a result teaching is of a high standard. In an outstanding lesson observed by inspectors the children showed confidence in the way they approached their tasks, using stimulating displays to gain information. Pupils used "The Way, the Truth and the Life" textbooks selectively to confirm views, opinions or facts and adjusted quickly to the teacher's directions.

The children make excellent progress in relation to the starting points. The levels of attainment in Religious Education at the end of KS 1 and KS2 compare favourably with the standards in English.

The monitoring and pupil performance tracking systems are very effective in ensuring potential underachievement is rapidly identified and dealt with. Furthermore, the half termly pupil progress meetings with individual children ensure appropriate plans are in place to address, support and challenge the children's learning. As a result the children are highly motivated to achieve their best. Assertive Mentoring has already had a very positive impact on provision for English and mathematics and plans are in place to extend this strategy to Religious Education. Learning environments are stimulating and thought provoking throughout the school. A member of the Mini Vinnie's group was very proud to show the Inspectors their display and how it had been produced. The children take great pride in their school.

The quality of Collective Worship is outstanding and is central to the life of the school. Pupils are encouraged to prepare their own assemblies and Acts of Worship, making full use of the resources available to them. During one outstanding Collective Worship, observed by the inspectors, the children displayed confidence in their delivery and knowledge of the Gospel reading; as well as a quiet respect for reflection. "Statements to Live By" are used with good effect in Collective Worship, lessons and assemblies. The children have a variety of excellent opportunities to explore their own spiritual and moral development. This is done through the curriculum, the day to day running of the school and the excellent range of activities and experiences available to all children.

There are strong links with the Parish. The Deanery Team support the school as often as possible by attending assemblies, celebrating Masses and leading the Year 6 retreat in the Summer term. Many of the liturgies are led by the children. The School Chaplain liaises with the Religious Education Co-ordinator and both ensure there is a comprehensive programme of events throughout the liturgical year.

**OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS****1**

St Elizabeth's provides an outstanding range of Religious Education experiences for all children which effectively promotes their spiritual, moral, and social development. All involved in the Religious Education of the children are committed to providing the best possible opportunities for the children in their care. The children are valued and this is demonstrated by the outstanding pastoral care evident across the school. The children achieve very well and their behaviour is outstanding. They are to be congratulated on all they do for the wider community of St Elizabeth's school.

Leadership and management are outstanding. The Headteacher provides outstanding leadership and direction. Together with the Religious Education Co-ordinator and the Senior Management Team there is excellent commitment to the Catholic mission of the school.

The Chair of Governors and Governing Body are very proud of their school and rightly so. They are committed to promoting the Catholic life of the school, provide challenge and support, striving for the highest standards.

The Mission Statement, "In our school we recognise Jesus at the heart of all we do..." is firmly rooted in the Gospel values, and clearly lived out in the school community. As a result relationships are strong and supportive making St Elizabeth's a happy and successful school

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

To continue to:

- introduce Assertive Mentoring into the Religious Education Programme.
- embed implementation of the Religious Education Programme "The Way, the Truth and the Life".

## PARENTS' QUESTIONNAIRES

..208..... questionnaires were sent out 26.... returned

|   | please tick  | Strongly Agree | Agree | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Don't Know |
|---|--|----------------|-------|----------|-------------------|------------|
| 1 | My child enjoys school   | 17             | 9     |          |                   |            |
| 2 | I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches                                 | 17             | 9     |          |                   |            |
| 3 | I am made to feel welcome in school  | 18             | 8     |          |                   |            |
| 4 | The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns | 9              | 15    |          |                   |            |
| 5 | The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education               | 10             | 15    |          |                   | 1          |
| 6 | The school enables my child/ren to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education        | 12             | 13    |          |                   | 1          |
| 7 | The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education          | 9              | 14    |          |                   | 3          |

## PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRES (YEAR 2)

|    | Dear Children,<br>Please put a tick under the face that you think is your best answer to each question.<br>Thank you! | yes<br> | sometimes<br> | no<br> |
|----|---|---|--|---|
| 1  | I like being at this school.  | 21  |  |   |
| 2  | I learn new things in R.E. lessons.   | 21  |  |   |
| 3  | I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.   | 21  |  |   |
| 4  | I have to work hard.  | 21  |  |   |
| 5  | My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.  | 21  |  |   |
| 6  | My teacher listens to me.   | 21  |  |   |
| 7  | <i>When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.</i>  | 21  |  |   |
| 8  | I get praise when I do my best.   | 18  | 3  |   |
| 9  | Other children are kind and behave well   | 13  | 8  |   |
| 10 | <i>I am happy on the playground.</i>  | 18  | 3  |   |
| 11 | I am allowed to help in class and around school.  | 21  |  |   |
| 12 | I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.   | 20  | 1  |   |

## PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRES (YEAR 6)

|    |  | Yes | sometimes | No |  |
|----|--|-----|-----------|----|--|
| 1  | Do you like being at this school?                          | 16  | 11        |    |  |
| 2  | Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons? | 23  | 4         |    |  |
| 3  | Are your Religious Education lessons interesting ?         | 23  | 3         | 1  |  |
| 4  | Do you get help when you are stuck?                        | 17  | 9         | 1  |  |
| 5  | Do you have to work hard?                                  | 23  | 3         | 1  |  |
| 6  | Do teachers show you how to make your work better?         | 27  |           |    |  |
| 7  | Do other children behave well?                             | 18  | 8         | 1  |  |
| 8  | Are teachers fair to you?                                  | 27  |           |    |  |
| 9  | Do teachers listen to your ideas?                          | 25  | 2         |    |  |
| 10 | Are you given responsibility?                              | 22  | 5         |    |  |
| 11 | Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?                | 14  | 10        | 3  |  |