



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School: All Saints' Catholic Primary School
Address: Cedar Road
Sale
Cheshire
M33 5NW

Tel No: 0161 962 1288

URN: 106347

Headteacher: Mrs A Fagan

Chair of Governors: Mr G Perkins

Date of Inspection: 10 July 2019

Inspectors: Mrs C Morgan
Mrs L Kelly

'Living Our Faith, Learning In Love'

The following two quotes are also of enormous value to our school and are consistently loved and lived by all who work in and around All Saints':

**'I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot;
together we can do great things'**

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Our Values

- **Working Together:** as we journey through life with Jesus at our side, we inspire each other to achieve all we can and to embrace our futures with hope and confidence.
- **Happiness:** We recognise the impact of all our thoughts, words and actions on others and how these can 'make' or 'break' somebody's day. Each and every day we try to boost and inspire happiness in others, we do our best to make others happy, making their days better because of the things we do and say.
- **Forgiveness:** We understand that sometimes, we make mistakes. It is how we respond to mistakes that is the important thing. It takes courage to say sorry and we need to be brave to forgive someone too. We say we are sorry and do our very best not to do 'it' again. We forgive one another knowing God's heart is full of mercy and love for us when we do the wrong thing and tell him we are sorry.
- **TRY YOUR BEST!:** ...in all things, always.
- **Resilience:** Don't ever give up

These values are reflected in the behaviours you will see around school on a daily basis from staff, pupils and parents. They are included in all aspects of school life including our recruitment procedures, inductions and appraisals for staff, as well as our Behaviour Policy.

SCHOOL: ALL SAINTS' CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, SALE

DATE OF LAST INSPECTION: JUNE 2014

JUDGEMENT FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTION: OUTSTANDING

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTION

There were no areas for improvement identified in the last inspection.

PROGRESS MADE WITH AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PREVIOUS INSPECTION

Although no areas for improvement were identified, when the current Headteacher took up her post in September 2015, a Religious Education Improvement Plan was written, which includes the following:

Catholic Life – to ensure that the Catholic curriculum permeates all areas of school life and not just Religious Education.

Religious Education – to strengthen the assessment and tracking of RE and to improve the quality of feedback to pupils.

Collective Worship – to further develop staff knowledge and understanding of Collective Worship as well as providing opportunities for pupils to plan and lead Collective Worship.

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS: how effective is the school in providing Catholic Education.

1

This is an outstanding Catholic school

The above judgement on overall effectiveness is based on all the available evidence following the evaluation of:

CATHOLIC LIFE

1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

1

Summary of key findings:

- All Saints' is an Outstanding Catholic school where everyone receives a warm welcome.
- A recent review of the school's Mission Statement, in which all stakeholders were involved, has ensured that even the youngest pupils understand that 'Living Our Faith, Learning In Love' is at the heart of everything they do.
- The inspiring Headteacher, committed Religious Education lead, supportive staff, who are challenged and supported by the governors and proactive Parish Priest, have a deep commitment to provide outstanding Catholic education for all the pupils.
- This commitment to the mission of the church permeates every facet of the life of the school and there are very strong links between the school, parish and home.
- There is overwhelming support from parents who are fulsome in their praise for the love, care and support their children receive during their time at the school. They feel that the school lives out the Gospel values every day.
- Staff are extremely supportive of one another and feel privileged to work in a place which 'asks me to live out my faith everyday'. They provide exemplary role models for the pupils in their care.
- Pupils show great respect for one another, to adults around them and to visitors to the school. Their behaviour is outstanding. They show high levels of religious literacy and are able to show a mature attitude to sensitive issues.
- Although no points for development were identified in the last Religious Education inspection, the school has carried out rigorous self-evaluation and has developed a comprehensive action plan.

What the school needs to do to improve further

- Governors should continue to develop their role in monitoring and evaluating the provision for Religious Education.
- Support staff in leading high quality Collective Worship so that they can support pupils in developing their expertise.

Information about the Inspection

The Inspection of All Saints' Catholic Primary School was carried out under the requirements of the Education Act 2005, and in accordance with the Shrewsbury Diocesan Framework and Schedule for Denominational Inspections approved by the Bishop of Shrewsbury. The inspection reviews and evaluates how effective the school is in providing Catholic education. This process begins with the school's own self-evaluation and the inspection schedule follows the criteria set by the National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisers (NBRIA 2017).

The inspector reviewed in detail the following aspects:

- The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school
- The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school
- How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education
- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education
- How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship
- The quality of Collective Worship provided by the school
- How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education, Collective Worship and the Catholic Life of the school

The inspection was carried out by two inspectors over one day:

- Inspectors observed 5 lessons.
- A range of Collective Worship was observed including a Key Stage Two (KS2) Act of Worship led by the Headteacher, a Key Stage One (Year 1) Act of Worship led by the class teacher, a lunchtime Prayer Group and a Mini Vinnies meeting were also observed.
- Discussions were held with the Headteacher, the Acting Deputy Headteacher who is also the Religious Education Coordinator, the Parish Priest who is also the link governor for Religious Education, the Chair of Governors, a Foundation Governor and a Parent Governor, a group of members of staff as well as with groups of pupils.
- A sample of pupils' Religious Education workbooks was scrutinised from every class along with the Religious Education Coordinator's file and files for both Collective Worship and the Catholic Life of the school.
- A range of documents was made available and scrutinised including the Diocesan Self Evaluation Form (DSEF), the Religious Education Action Plan, attainment and progress data, school policies, Headteacher's Reports to governors, a sample of pupils' annual reports and Minutes of Governing Body meetings.
- Details of monitoring of lessons and work was scrutinised as well as pupil tracking data.
- Displays around the school and in classrooms were also noted.

Information about this school

- All Saints' is a one form entry Voluntary Aided Catholic primary, catering for 3-11 year olds.
- The school has an annual admission number of 30 and there are currently 233 children on roll, of whom 92% are baptised Catholics.
- The school primarily serves the parish of All Saints' but also has some pupils from St Margaret Ward, Our Lady of Lourdes and St Joseph's parishes.

Full report – inspection judgments

CATHOLIC LIFE

The Catholic Life of the school is outstanding

1

The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school	1
The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision of the Catholic Life of the school	1

- All Saints' continues to be an outstanding Catholic school and is a place where pupils appreciate, value and actively participate in the Catholic Life of the school.
- The recently revised Mission Statement, 'Living our Faith, Learning in Love', is lived out on a daily basis and is at the heart of everything that is done. Each member of the school community is loved and valued. There are very strong links between the school, home and parish.
- Pupils are regularly involved with parish celebrations and activities both in their own parish and with pupils from other schools, and are confident in expressing their religious and cultural identity and beliefs.
- On the day of the inspection, pupils' behaviour was exemplary. Visitors were treated with respect and pupils showed deep care and commitment to each other.
- Pupils are keen to involve themselves in the Catholic Life of the school and many take on leading roles in activities which demonstrate their commitment to its Catholic ethos. For example, their work in Mini Vinnies and in 'The Big Sleep Out' for CAFOD show their awareness of the needs of others within and beyond their community and their concern to seek justice for them.
- They are enthusiastic about the Catholic Life of the school and are happy to be seen as '21st Century disciples', eager to put their faith into action.
- Pastoral care is a great strength of the school. As a result of the many opportunities provided, pupils present as happy, confident young people who have an excellent understanding of loving relationships and of their own emotional, physical and spiritual growth.
- There is a strong emphasis on inclusion and all groups of pupils are supported through the work of teachers and support staff. One pupil commented, 'it's like a second home'.
- Staff are deeply committed to the Catholic Life of the school and this is evident in all aspects of school life. They participate fully in the prayer life of the school and in the Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities they are offered through the school, parish and Diocese.

- Staff provide excellent role models in their relationships with each other and with the pupils; they work as a team and, as a result, staff and pupils feel supported and cared for.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the Catholic Life of the school and comment on the strong commitment of staff. They feel that the school is 'a very special place' where pupils are 'supported in their faith journey'.
- Parents receive regular newsletters, which keep them informed of the opportunities for pupils to become involved in the Catholic life of the school and the community and they, in turn, are supportive of all that is on offer.
- The inspirational Headteacher shares her deep faith and, supported by deeply committed staff and governors, is clearly focused on the Church's mission in education. As a result, the Catholic Life of the school is at the centre of all that is done.
- The school is accurate in identifying its own strengths and areas for development and takes into account the views of all stakeholders in its pursuit of excellence.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is outstanding

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How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education	1
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education	1

- Pupils enter the school in the Early Years Foundation Stage with a wide variation of knowledge of the Catholic faith and religious figures. During their time at All Saints', almost all pupils make very good or outstanding progress. Outcomes at the end of Key Stage 1 (KS1) and Key Stage 2 (KS2) are high.
- Pupils enjoy their learning in Religious Education and comment positively on what they have learnt and the way teachers plan creative activities that challenge them and 'help us learn more about our faith'.
- Parental responses show that almost all are very happy with the Religious Education provided by the school: '...the children learn about their faith and enjoy sharing this with us at home' and, '...at All Saints' my children learn about Gospel values but more importantly live them every day'.
- In the lessons observed, almost all pupils responded enthusiastically, showed interest in what they were learning and were rarely off task.
- Good use is made of technology to enhance pupils' learning and they respond well to the creative ways in which this is used.
- Pupils value their Religious Education work and the presentation of work in their books is excellent throughout both Key Stages.
- Teaching is consistently good and some is outstanding, which results in almost all pupils developing a religious literacy appropriate for their age and capacity for learning. Pupils are challenged to think about and evaluate what they have learnt.
- Teachers' subject knowledge is very good and they are confident in delivering Religious Education lessons. A variety of teaching styles is used to lead pupils into discussion and to reflect on what they are learning. In the best lessons observed, teachers used open questioning to extend pupils' knowledge and understanding.
- In the lessons observed, support staff showed skill in the ways in which they engaged with groups or individual pupils. Through questioning and prompting, they enabled pupils to actively participate in the lesson and to make good progress.
- The school follows the Diocesan Religious Education scheme, 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' and teachers plan effectively to deliver engaging and effective lessons. Pupil books show a wide range of creative approaches.
- The school meets the Bishops' Conference requirements for the teaching of Religious Education, which is well resourced, is dedicated 10% of curriculum time across all year groups and is given parity with other core subjects.

- There is a Religious Education Action Plan in place and this has driven developments in all areas of the teaching of Religious Education. Assessment is in line with diocesan guidelines and data is regularly collected and analysed to identify pupils' progress and areas for improvement. The school works closely with other, local Catholic primary schools and work on assessment is shared and moderated.
- The school is implementing a revised marking policy and this is informing teachers' marking in Religious Education. The majority of marking challenges pupils' thinking and identifies the next steps they need to take in order to improve. Pupils respond to this and show evidence that they are engaged in their learning.
- The school engages well with diocesan and other CPD opportunities, some of which are organised through the parish priest and which are done in collaboration with other, local schools thereby ensuring engaging, creative and high quality Religious Education. The committed and hard-working Religious Education Coordinator, who has also been the Acting Deputy Head, has a passion for the subject and with the support of the Headteacher, leads highly effective Religious Education. They have a clear vision for the development of Religious Education throughout the school and monitor and evaluate all aspects of this so that standards continue to rise.
- Leaders and governors are very knowledgeable about the standards achieved and the progress being made in Religious Education. They take account of the views of parents and pupils in their quest to deliver highly effective Religious Education lessons.
- Governors receive regular reports on Religious Education from the Headteacher and the Religious Education Coordinator and these inform their strategic plans for the continuing development of the subject. Governors should now consider ways in which they could take part in the monitoring and evaluation of Religious Education, so that they are fully aware of the rigour, consistency and accuracy of the process and can plan strategically for improvement.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective Worship is outstanding

1

How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship	1
The quality of provision for Collective Worship	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Collective Worship	1

- In the Acts of Collective Worship observed during the inspection, pupils were engaged and attentive. They showed their interest, responded well to questions and offered ideas. Pupils demonstrated reverence and respect, sang joyfully and were knowledgeable about Bible stories. They were happy to offer prayer in a variety of forms, sometimes reflecting on the words being used. They were also confident in offering their own prayers and responses.
- It is evident that prayer features strongly and is central to the daily life of the school.
- Inspectors also observed a lunchtime Prayer Group and a Mini Vinnies meeting, where pupils were seen to engage in spontaneous prayer and to offer prayers for others in the community.
- Pupils make good use of the Prayer Garden, which is in a central part of the school. They were observed to sit quietly and to pray individually and together; they all treat the area with respect.
- Pupil chaplains ensure that focal points and the altar are ready for liturgical celebrations.
- Displays around the school and in classes reflect the Liturgical year as well as the mission of the school.
- The school offers a variety of worship and liturgies in which pupils can participate throughout the year, either in school or in Church, some of which are organised by the Parish Priest and where pupils have the opportunity to plan and lead Collective Worship.
- As identified in the Religious Education Action Plan, staff are being supported to deliver high quality Collective Worship. As all staff become more confident in this area, they will be able to support pupils in developing their expertise and to take a more active role in leading Collective Worship.
- In the parish, with the local cluster of schools and from the Diocese staff have accessed and have taken advantage of CPD opportunities to enhance their own spiritual life and that of their pupils.
- Parents comment on the high quality of the varied experiences of Collective Worship to which they are invited throughout the year. Pupils value the certificates they have received for leading thoughtful Collective Worship.

- Irrespective of their faith background, pupils gain spiritually and morally from their involvement in worship in school and in church. Families are invited to many of these and are warmly welcomed.
- Resources around the school and in classrooms are of high quality and are treated with respect and reverence.
- Collective Worship is given a high priority by leaders and governors and is seen as central to the Catholic Life of the school. Governors should enhance their monitoring and evaluation of this area by taking part in monitoring activities with senior leaders and then reporting their findings to the whole Governing Body.