



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

REPORT ON THE MONITORING INSPECTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS

School: St Clement's Catholic Primary School

Address: Oxford Road
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Tel No: 01928 572129

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Headteacher: Mr M Parker

Chair of Governors: Mrs A Williams

Date of Inspection: 27 November 2014

Inspector: Mrs E Robb

St Clement's Catholic Primary School provides an outstanding Catholic education.

Religious Education is central to the life of the school and is led by an inspirational Headteacher and an equally inspirational Religious Education Co-ordinator. Together they lead a Christ centred community whose impact reaches beyond the school boundaries.

Central to the success of the school is the emphasis on the Mission Statement. Parents and Governors, who were involved in the review of the Mission Statement, fully support the school's ethos and the positive impact this has on the children. One parent commented: *"It's a lovely statement and appropriate throughout your whole life really."*

The Mission Statement was further celebrated in the school's first ever mission week which linked the school Mission Statement to the catholic life of the school through discussions, reflections and prayer.

A 'learning walk' provided the Inspector with the opportunity to visit classrooms where there were examples of outstanding practice. All classrooms have a focal point for prayer and children have regular opportunities to pray together and individually. The stimulating learning environments provide motivation and security for all children to achieve well. The children make good progress and are keen to learn. They are well-focussed, enthusiastic and enjoy their Religious Education lessons. They share their ideas and opinions with confidence and respect, and are encouraged to do so. The children's behaviour is excellent. The relationships the children have with each other, and with adults, evidence the commitment to the promotion of high expectations for all.

There are effective monitoring and evaluation strategies in place which ensure there is no room for complacency. The Religious Education Co-ordinator is extremely knowledgeable and provides support for her colleagues in planning, organisation, assessment and moderation. She fulfils her role admirably with dedication, care and commitment.

The non- negotiable strategies employed throughout all areas of the school ensure that priority is given to high standards and consistency. These strategies are a valuable support for staff who are new to the school.

There are many opportunities for the children to take on responsibilities, for example, Liturgy Leaders, the Mini Vinnies, the School Council, Buddies and Play Leaders. The children have a keen awareness of the needs of other. Their contribution and commitment to fund raising activities, both locally and globally, for example to Halton Hospice and to CAFOD, is outstanding.

The governors provide challenge and support for the school leadership and are committed to the mission of the school. The leadership team and governors have a strong vision and direction for the school, embodied in the school's Mission Statement and school aims. They know their school very well and, along with the staff, have a commitment to all children achieving their full potential- *"who our children become is just as important as what they learn"* (SEF 2014).

The Parish Priest is actively involved in school life. He is extremely supportive and encourages the children and their families to become fully involved in the parish community. The school participates in parish liturgies and extends invitations to members of the parish to participate in school Collective Worship and prayer.

Collective Worship is outstanding. It is central to the life of the school and a key part of all school celebrations. It is well planned, creative, prayerful and reflective. Children are given the opportunity to prepare, lead and participate in all aspects of Collective Worship. They are reverent and respectful. They use a variety of resources, including ICT, drama and singing to enhance the message within their Collective Worship.

In conclusion it is apparent that Religious Education underpins all that St Clement's aspires to achieve. The gospel values are clearly demonstrated in the daily life of the school. St Clement's provides an exemplar of outstanding practices as a Catholic school and community.

Areas of outstanding practice

Outcomes for pupils

In Collective Worship, the children are fully involved in leading prayer with enthusiasm and confidence. There is a climate of mutual respect, so that all pupils feel engaged, valued and motivated, living the school motto "*Together in love and faith*".

Leaders and Managers

Leaders and Managers have a secure understanding of the school's strengths and areas for development. They strive to motivate all and ensure that all children have access to the best possible opportunities.

Provision

The inspirational Headteacher and equally inspirational Religious Education Co-ordinator ensure that Religious Education is central to life at St Clement's school. They continually reach out to strengthen home, school and parish links.