



DIOCESE OF LANCASTER EDUCATION SERVICE

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION
REPORT (Section 48)**

**Our Lady & St Patrick's
Catholic Primary School,
Maryport**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION
REPORT (Section 48)**

on

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

School:	Our Lady & St Patrick's Catholic Primary School
Address:	Ennerdale Road, Maryport Cumbria CA15 8HN
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School URN:	112337
Headteacher:	Mrs Jacqueline Hampson
Chair of Governors:	Mrs Diane Robertson
Lead Inspector:	Mrs Frances Wygladala
Team Inspector:	Mrs Amy Bates
Date of Inspection:	14th June 2017

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Our Lady & St Patrick's is a Catholic Voluntary Aided primary school in the Diocese of Lancaster. The school serves the parish of Our Lady & St Patrick's in Maryport. It is a smaller than average sized primary school with 176 pupils currently on role of whom approximately 48% are baptised Roman Catholic. Pupils' attainment on entry to school is below the national average. Most pupils are from White British backgrounds and 18% are from minority ethnic groups. The proportion of pupils supported for SEN is below the national average, however the school has a much higher proportion of vulnerable and disadvantaged families to support.

PUPILS	YN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on roll	44	23	17	27	28	22	29	30	220
Catholics on roll	17	10	9	12	11	12	16	14	101
Other Christian denomination	23	11	8	12	15	9	10	12	100
Other faith background	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No religious affiliation	4	2	0	3	2	1	3	4	19
No of learners from ethnic groups	5	2	4	4	3	6	7	5	36
Total on SEN Register	1	1	3	3	4	4	3	4	23
Total with Statements of SEN	1				2				3

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	2
Index of multiple deprivation	0.34			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
Our Lady & St Patrick's, Maryport	101

TEACHING TIME FOR RE	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	2	2	2	2.25	2.25	2.25	2.25	15
% of teaching time	10%	10%	10%	11%	11%	11%	11%	

TEACHING TIME FOR ENGLISH	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
% of teaching time	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	

TEACHING TIME FOR MATHS	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35

% of teaching time	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%	
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STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	8
Part-time teachers	2
Total full-time equivalent (FTE)	9.6
Classroom Support assistants	15
Percentage of Catholic teachers FTE	32%
Number of teachers teaching RE	7
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	3
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	0
Chaplaincy staffing	0

ORGANISATION	
Published admission number	30
Number of classes	8
Average class size KS1	23
Average class size KS2	27

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2015-16	Current financial year 2016-17	Next financial year 2017-18
Total expenditure on teaching and learning resources	30,000	30,000	30,000
RE Curriculum allowance from above	3,000	5,000	3,000
English Curriculum allowance from above	6,000	5,000	5,000
Total CPD budget	6,000	8,000	6,000
RE allocation for CPD	1,500	3,000	2,000

How the school has developed since the last inspection
<p>All issues for improvement since the last inspection have been successfully addressed.</p> <p>Staff and pupils have benefitted from a week dedicated to Judaism and shared mixed cultural experiences with a local cluster of schools. They have visited different places of worship, including a local synagogue and a Buddhist temple. Pupils are aware of the need to widen their knowledge and understanding of other faiths and cultures and have enjoyed the learning opportunities.</p> <p>Parish links have been developed, newsletters are shared and work from school displayed in church. Patronal feast days are a focus to bring the school and parish community together and looked forward to by pupils, families, staff and governors.</p>

INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

1

CATHOLIC LIFE

1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

Our Lady and St Patrick's is an outstanding Catholic school, where rigorous and accurate self-evaluation leads to continuous improvement. Excellent leadership at all levels ensures a shared, ambitious vision which fosters the highest of expectations for all members of the school community. The school is very welcoming and inclusive; pupils enjoy coming to school and they have positive attitudes to learning.

The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school is outstanding. The commitment from Parish clergy, governors and staff to support pupils and families in their prayer life and grow in faith is a priority. Staff and governors set good examples, are very proud of their school and work well together. The school has met the changing needs of the community it serves and prioritised staffing with clear vision, mission and purpose. Excellent relationships and communication between home, school and parish are key strengths; an improvement since the last inspection. Despite the parish church being in the town, a considerable distance from school, pupils are taken to Mass on a regular basis. Parents have a high opinion of the school and are regularly encouraged to participate in school life, for example through assemblies and curriculum in action days. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is outstanding.

The prayer and liturgy opportunities offered are outstanding and everyone lives out the mission statement, 'we recognise Christ in everyone as we grow together in faith and love to serve the community'. Christ is at the centre of the school community and Gospel values permeate through everything the school seeks to achieve. Pupils act with reverence and join in prayers confidently, they plan and lead prayer and worship from an early age. Relationships between pupils, teachers and support staff are excellent and effective; they contribute to pupils' obvious eagerness to learn. The learning environments are well resourced with religious artefacts, some bespoke and very child focused. Displays around school are excellent and used well to enhance learning.

The quality of Religious Education (RE) is outstanding; teaching is consistently good or better and systems for tracking, monitoring and evaluating the curriculum are robust and in line with other core curriculum subjects. The curriculum effectively provides pupils with a deep insight into the life and teachings of Jesus Christ and the relationship between faith and life. Staff are well supported by senior leaders and the wealth of professional development opportunities is a great strength of the school and shared with others.

WHAT THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO DO TO IMPROVE FURTHER

To improve further the school needs to:

- Develop further links with the Chaplain and RE department at the partner High School to promote shared prayer and liturgy experiences for Key Stage 2 pupils.
- Plan opportunities in year groups for pupils to share liturgies with St Gregory's, to enhance the effective relationships with staff that already exist through planning and moderation.
- Personalise the RE curriculum in line with National and Diocesan guidelines, to give staff full ownership of the curriculum.

CAPACITY FOR SUSTAINED IMPROVEMENT

All priorities since the last inspection have been successfully addressed. The outstanding leadership and commitment of staff and governors illustrates a capacity to improve further. The Headteacher is a National Leader of Education (NLE) and the Chair of Governors is a National Leader of Governors (NLG), both support other schools and share best practice. The school's capacity for sustained improvement in all areas is outstanding because of rigorous and accurate self-evaluation leading to clear, challenging targets and appropriate priorities.

PART A: CATHOLIC LIFE

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

1

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

1

1

1

The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school is outstanding. Our Lady and St Patrick's is a welcoming, friendly and inclusive community with a strong family ethos where everyone is valued and where pupils and staff flourish. Governors, managers and staff have high expectations and a shared vision of the Catholic mission and ethos. There is a wholehearted expression of the relationship between faith and action. The Prayer and Liturgy of the Catholic Church are central to the life of the school, are of high quality and form a key part of every school celebration. The home, school and parish partnership has been developed since the last inspection and is a strength, especially with the Fairtrade work, including coffee mornings and shared displays in school and church. The patronal feast day is a real celebration, with the whole school attending Mass in church followed by lunch with the school and parish community together.

All staff members at Our Lady and St Patrick's are committed to supporting the Catholic ethos and this culture is intrinsically embedded through the life of the school. The school is a calm and prayerful community that provides a stimulating learning environment to reflect the school's mission and its Catholic character. Staff and governors work hard to develop and enhance the school for the benefit of everyone and respond effectively to the changing needs of the community. Pupils respond well to the many opportunities to pray for example, during the month of May, many pupils attend the lunchtime rosary group. They take part in, lead and prepare prayer and liturgies with enthusiasm and confidence from an early age. Singing is a strength. The pupil's knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Life of school is greatly enhanced by their participation in and contribution to all aspects of school life.

Pupils at Our Lady and St Patrick's are nurtured within a strong Catholic ethos; pupils can express their views and beliefs with confidence and are able to refer to the teaching of Jesus, as witnessed in pupil interviews. Catholic principles and values underpin behaviour and relationships, resulting in a strong shared vision for the Catholic Life of the school: this encourages best behaviour and focused learning at all times where pupils feel valued and are capable of forgiveness. Pupils are aware of the needs of others and seek justice for all within and beyond the school community. The school is a very 'giving' community, supporting many different charities, often at the request of pupils through the very effective student council.

All governors and school leaders are fully committed to fulfilling their role in ensuring outstanding provision for the Catholic Life of the school. They have high expectations and are actively working together to implement the Catholic philosophy of education and the Gospel values which underpin all aspects of the school. The headteacher and Subject Leader provide a clear direction for the Catholic Life of the school which

is given the highest priority, along with the spiritual and moral development of pupils. Leaders and managers ensure that parents have a thorough understanding of the school's mission, as shown in the very positive responses to parent questionnaires and discussions with staff and governors. The Wednesday Word is a focus to show through word and action that pupils at Our Lady & St Patrick's are true followers of Christ.

The governors, leaders and managers are committed to the partnerships with local schools and further links with the Chaplain and RE department at the partner High School to promote shared prayer and liturgy experiences for Key Stage 2 pupils would develop this. Staff work very closely with St Gregory's and planning shared liturgies in year groups would enhance the effective work and relationships that already exist.

The school devoted a whole year to the jubilee Year of Mercy. Pupils and staff appreciated the opportunity to join others in pilgrimage at The Cathedral and, on returning to school, led a reflective liturgy for the whole school to which parents were invited. 'Their joy in proclaiming and sharing the gospel was evident' stated one member of staff.

Staff are well supported by senior leaders and the wealth of professional development opportunities is a great strength of the school and shared with others, often through the Catholic Teaching Alliance (CTA North). Staff and pupils benefit greatly from visitors to the school to enhance the prayer life, including Canon Ruscillo – who was questioned by Year 6 about his vocation, Steve Murray the mime artist and Margaret Wright the Diocesan Leader of Education, who recently led a whole school day of prayer for Pentecost. Foundation governors access annual training from the diocese to increase their understanding and effectiveness, working on behalf of the Bishop.

PART B: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

THE QUALITY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1

- How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education
- How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education
- The quality of provision in Religious Education

1

1

1

The RE curriculum meets all the requirements of the Bishops' Conference and is informed by the Curriculum Directory and the Diocesan document 'Fit for Mission? Schools'. Religious Education is at the centre of the school's curriculum and is given priority in improvement planning. A culture has been created in which staff share a vision and commitment to high standards and work very closely with a partner school, St Gregory's.

Pupils at Our Lady & St Patrick's love RE, their enthusiasm and attitude to learning are exemplary. During observations staff and the children demonstrated outstanding knowledge of the teachings of the Catholic Church. Pupils spoke enthusiastically about RE and particularly valued the 'Big Picture' overview provided at the beginning of each topic as it meant, "We can do extra research". On entry to Foundation Stage, baseline assessment of children shows that most have little knowledge or understanding of the Catholic faith, or of its traditions. Throughout the school progress is at least good for all learning regardless of their starting points with high attainment at the end of Key Stage 2.

Leadership and management of the RE curriculum is outstanding. The RE co-ordinator has been appointed as Deputy Head at their partner school but remains as Subject Leader; this has facilitated joint planning with peer partners between schools and the Governors were keen to outline the success of this partnership and commend the leadership skills of both the Headteacher and RE Subject Leader. The Governors understanding of standards in RE is outstanding as is the level of challenge and support as evidenced. Pupils were eager to discuss the excellent marking demonstrated in their books and the ways in which it helped them make improvements and move their learning along. This practice is clearly embedded and valued by all. There was clear evidence of ongoing assessment and the variety and quality of work in the books was of a very high standard.

The quality of teaching and learning observed during the inspection was at least good and many aspects were outstanding. Staff have excellent subject knowledge that contributes to the pupils' progress as learners. During one observation the children demonstrated excellent knowledge of parables, their meanings and how they linked to the Sacraments. The class teacher gave a moving explanation of 'healing' and restoration in faith. Later, during discussion with the inspection team, a pupil talked about this lesson and how anointment, "Gives you hope". In another lesson, younger pupils demonstrated a deep understanding of Gospel values and ways in which they can be 'followers of Jesus'. This lesson ended with a beautiful activity where each child (and staff member) placed a personal stepping stone on the 'pathway to the rules of love'. There is a good variety of resources for RE and teachers use them well to provide a stimulating learning environment. The displays in the hall, in classes and around the school are of a

very high standard. There are plans to personalise the RE curriculum in line with National and Diocesan guidelines, to give staff full ownership of the curriculum.

The pupils at Our Lady & St Patrick's are a delight and a real strength of the school. They were very eager to share their books and talk about their varied activities in RE including Pentecost, letters bemoaning the loss of the religious meaning on Easter cards, charity work and the Moldova project where they sent old uniforms to be worn by disadvantaged children. One pupil commented on her personal satisfaction about being part of this project and said, "The faces of the children showed that we made a difference".

Another pupil was keen to say, "In our school we are Catholic, everyone recognises Christ in everyone". The pupils also had an outstanding understanding of the school's mission statement and are very proud of the way in which their Headteacher ensures that this underpins everything they do.

Parents appreciate the work of the school, as shown in the parents' questionnaires returned to the diocese for the inspection. They state that their children are happy in school and they are very happy with the provision of RE in the school. The 'Curriculum in Action' where the children invite parents in to find out about what they have been learning about in classes through the use of different mediums such as drama and dance is an innovative idea valued by all stakeholders.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

Overall Effectiveness	1
Capacity for sustained improvement	1
Catholic Life	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well leaders and managers promote and ensure provision for the Catholic Life of the school through monitoring and evaluation. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school. 	1
Religious Education	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education. 	1
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quality of provision in Religious Education. 	1

	Pupil Outcomes	Leadership & Management	Provision	Overall
Catholic Life	1	1	1	1
Religious Education	1	1	1	1