



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

REPORT ON THE MONITORING INSPECTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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| School: | St Alban's Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy |
| Address: | Priory Lane Macclesfield SK10 3HJ |
| Tel No: | 01625 425905 |
| URN: | 141811 |
| Headteacher: | Mrs T Cooke |
| Chair of Governors: | Mrs A-M Connor |
| Date of Inspection: | 19 March 2015 |
| Inspectors: | Mr K Toms |

St. Alban's Catholic Primary School continues to provide an outstanding Catholic Education due to the strong and visionary leadership of all who contribute to the Religious Education leadership team. Members of this leadership team are clearly dedicated to the Catholic ethos and mission of the school and this permeates through the whole school community. They provide a very inclusive environment in which all are able to develop their faith and spirituality. Gospel values underpin their daily lives. All staff are focussed on setting high standards for the children and encourage them to deepen their understanding of our Catholic faith. Governors, together with the parish priest and the wider St. Alban's parish community, are extremely supportive and rightly proud of their school community. All are committed to seeking new ways to develop and strengthen their faith community. The following points exemplify this commitment:

Leadership in Religious Education (RE)

There is a very clear focus on deepening the children's understanding of their faith and an extremely effective programme of staff development to support this. The headteacher and senior leadership team meet regularly with the R.E. governor and parish priest to review and develop the mission of the school. The very enthusiastic R.E. coordinator is a real asset to the team and offers excellent leadership skills, helping all to not only maintain standards but to enhance them further.

High Standards of Pupil Attainment

The children make excellent progress in R.E. and are very enthusiastic in their lessons. They display a deep understanding of their work and how this impacts on their daily lives. In discussion with the children, they were keen to point out how all are welcome in their community, whatever their background. They are very active in FairTrade, Mini Vinnies and many local projects to help them live out their faith commitment to the full.

Collective Acts of Worship and Reflections

The staff and children have worked hard to enrich their approach to Collective Acts of Worship, taking every opportunity to develop both staff and children's leadership skills in this area. All classroom areas, and prayer and reflective areas, support and develop a deep spirituality within the school and they are appreciated by all the children. The children spoke enthusiastically of how they are allowed to think deeply and pray in these special areas.

St. Alban's Catholic Primary School is totally focussed on its Catholic mission and ethos and has the capacity to continue to grow from strength to strength.