



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

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SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School: Our Lady's Catholic Primary School  
Address: Wash Lane  
Latchford  
Warrington  
WA4 1JD

Tel No: 01925 633270

URN: 111305

Headteacher: Mrs A Emerton

Chair of Governors: Mrs J Wright

Date of Inspection: 13 July 2017

Inspectors: Mr K Toms  
Mrs E Robb

Respect

Believe

Love

Learn

Care



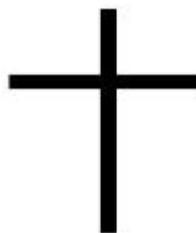
Have Fun

Take Responsibility

Aim High

Include Everyone

Celebrate



**Love**

**Love** one another as I have **loved** you.

**Respect**

We have **respect** for ourselves.  
We have **respect** for each other.  
We have **respect** for other people and their beliefs.

**Responsibility**

We **take responsibility** for our actions and our mistakes.  
We **take responsibility** for the environment.  
We **take responsibility** for school property.  
We **take responsibility** for other people, especially those who are younger than us.

**Care**

We **care** for each other.  
We **care** for other people, both near and far.  
We **take care** of the environment.  
We **take care** of school property.

**Have Fun**

We **have fun** learning inside the classroom and outside.  
We **enjoy** our learning.

**Include everyone**

We don't leave anyone out.  
We **include** those who are different from us.

**Celebrate**

We **celebrate** our own achievements and those of others.  
We **celebrate** the Sacraments.  
We **celebrate** our differences.

**Learn**

We **learn** throughout our lives.  
We **learn** the best way we can.  
We **learn** in different ways.

**Aim High**

We don't give up, even when it's hard.  
We **do our best**.

**Believe**

We **believe** in ourselves.  
We **believe** in God.  
We **believe** in Jesus' message.

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll	29	27	29	29	26	29	30	24	224
Catholics on roll	19	14	22	23	16	18	21	16	168
Other Christian denomination	2	1	1	2	4	2	3	4	19
Other faith background	1					1			2
No stated religious affiliation	7	12	6	4	6	9	5	4	53
Number of learners from ethnic groups	1							1	2
Total on SEN Register		5	4	5	4	2	6	5	31
Total with Statements of SEN			1		1	1	1		4
FSM (PP)	2	4	4	4	5	3	6	3	31

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	3
Index of multiple deprivation				

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
Blessed John Henry Newman	200
St Mary's	24

### With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred

PUPILS TRANSFER	
Name of School	No of Pupils
Cardinal Newman Catholic High School	15
St Gregory's Catholic High School	1
Sir Thomas Boteler CE High School	0
Bridgewater High School	2

RE TEACHING TIME	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Total RE teaching time (Hours) -- per week	1	2	2	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	17 hours

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	5
Part-time teachers	6
Total full-time equivalent	8
Support assistants (most are part time)	12
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	73%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	8
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	4
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	2

NAME OF SCHOOL	
Published admission number	210
Number of classes	8
Average class size KS1	28
Average class size KS2	27

## FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2015/2016	Current financial year 2016/2017	Next financial year 2017/2018
RE	3862	158	1000
English	1546	0	1000
Mathematics	511	0	1000
Science	680	0	1000

Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate	Judgement
<b>OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>The pupils at Our Lady's make an outstanding contribution to the Catholic life of the school. They are extremely confident in talking about the importance of their Catholic tradition and the part it plays in their lives. During the inspection, the Year 5 children very effectively led a Collective Act of Worship and were obviously skilled in selecting appropriate resources and passages from scripture to support their reflections. The children approached the assembly with sincere prayerfulness and reverence and very effectively involved all the children in their class service. Similarly, children in one of the lessons observed, prepared their own prayers and reflections. They knew how to select readings, focal points and prayers to support the theme of the lesson. The children sang enthusiastically in the Collective Acts of Worship and at a special performance, the Year 4 children joyfully sang some of their Gospel music.</p> <p>The children understood the need to be sensitive and inclusive of children from different faith backgrounds. One pupil from a different faith background made a particular point of explaining how welcome she felt in this inclusive community. The children displayed a very mature and sensitive approach to each other, readily praying for the needs of others and seeking to help all through their prayer services and their charitable work. This was recently exemplified by their response to the tragic death of their much loved school crossing assistant, the bombing tragedy in Manchester and the plight of local Syrian refugees. They are also very supportive of the local St. Rocco's Hospice.</p> <p>The Mini Vinnies group is very active at the school and plays a significant role in leading the school in supporting local and national charities. They have adopted the motto <i>Turning Concern into Action</i> which accurately summarises the difference they are making in their community.</p> <p>All the pupils were very enthusiastic about their Religious Education lessons. They enjoyed the variety of different approaches and creativity of their lessons. The children felt it was important to discover more about their faith and liked the challenge of looking more deeply into their beliefs. They spoke confidently about Jesus and the Gospel message being central to the school's mission statement and were able to make direct links as to how this underpins their daily lives.</p> <p>Attainment is good and outstanding throughout the school and their responses to the Catholic life of the school is outstanding. The children are immensely proud of their Catholic faith community and show considerable politeness and concern for each other and to visitors to the school. Their behaviour and responses in lessons and around the school is outstanding. They are to be commended for the way they respect each other and the welcome they extend to others.</p>	
<b>LEADERS AND MANAGERS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>Leadership at all levels is outstanding. During a period of change the Governors, Acting Headteacher, the Religious Education subject leaders, and now, the newly appointed Headteacher have ensured the Catholic Life of the school has gone from strength to strength.</p> <p>There is a clear sense of mission from all within the leadership team and the very effective Mission Statement remains central to the ethos and life of the school. This is reviewed regularly and is understood by all within the community and allows children to have an outstanding understanding of their role within the Catholic Life of the school.</p> <p>All areas for development since the last inspection have been fully met. School self-evaluation is a real strength of the school and the much improved assessment and monitoring procedures help all leaders to know their school very well and plan for future school developments and improvements.</p> <p>The enthusiasm all within the leadership team bring to their respective roles in developing the Catholic life of the School is a definite feature of the school and the infectious enthusiasm of the new Headteacher is ensuring that the school has an outstanding capacity for future improvements.</p>	

The Governors are to be commended in how they have planned carefully for leadership succession, keeping the Catholic ethos at the centre of all they do. By developing their role they are very effective in their own monitoring role and ability, to challenge and support the leadership team.

The Collective Acts of Worship at Our Lady's remains outstanding from the last inspection. It is well planned, prayerful and reflective and allows children to play their full role in planning and leading Worship. It reflects the liturgical life of the Church and allows the whole school community to celebrate in prayer and worship their own sense of mission. The school's Mission Statement is at the core of all they do. A Collective Act of Worship led by the Year 2 teacher with the Key Stage One children and a Year 5 prayer service were excellent examples of how well this is led at Our Lady's School.

<b>PROVISION</b>	<b>1</b>
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Teaching and learning at Our Lady's was observed to be good, with some being outstanding. This reflected the school's own monitoring and evaluation procedures. The lessons observed were well planned and built on children's prior learning. Good religious language was used very effectively and children made good and outstanding progress in every key stage. The teachers showed excellent subject knowledge and were very ably assisted by the teaching assistants. A variety of teaching styles and more creative approaches in lessons enthused the children and helped to challenge and deepen their understanding. IT was very effectively used in the lessons observed. The high quality displays were interactive and reflected the high status given to religious education at Our Lady's.

All children worked well and settled quickly to their tasks. They worked independently and were highly motivated in their lessons. In discussion with the children, they obviously enjoyed their work in Religious Education lessons. This was also reflected in the very high quality of work in the children's books and showed the amount of pride they have in their work. The work books were a delight to see.

All children were very well supported throughout and all abilities were able to make good and outstanding progress. Work was very well differentiated and was marked appropriately to support and challenge their learning. They are now effectively using next steps to help them with their target setting. The school ensures that the children's efforts are regularly celebrated in weekly assemblies. They are an integral feature of the school's approach to Collective Acts of Worship which seek to deepen the spiritual and prayer life of the children, whatever their religious background. Children of other faiths felt very welcome and able to play their own part in school celebrations.

<b>OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS</b>	<b>1</b>
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Our Lady's Catholic Primary School is outstanding in providing Catholic Education. All the pupils are making good progress overall through each phase and in some cases this is outstanding.

Leaders and managers have worked hard to ensure the school has continued to move forward in a time of significant change. They have very effectively addressed the development points from the last inspection. The management team and newly appointed Headteacher are totally enthused about the Catholic Life of the School and have ensured the already outstanding provision for Collective Acts of Worship is strengthened further.

Provision is also now outstanding with excellent support for the teaching and learning to effectively promote and raise standards still further.

The school fully meets the requirements of the Bishops' Conference

In summary, and using the words of one of the Governors, *"We want to know what is going on because it is an exciting place to be."*

The school should now:

- Consider ways to promote further the Catholic Life of the School on the website.
- Reflect and review the very effective Mission Statement in the light of recent staffing changes.
- Consider developing additional areas for prayer and reflection, for example, a Prayer Garden.

**Parents' Questionnaires**  
**93 Parents returned questionnaires**

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child enjoys school	43	41	7	1	1
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	48	40	3		2
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	55	33	3		2
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	37	45	3		8
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	44	43	3	1	2
6	The school enables my children to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	46	42	3		2
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	40	40	11		2

**Pupil Questionnaires (Year 2)**

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	I like being at this school.	14	9	3
2	I learn new things in Religious Education lessons.	16	8	2
3	I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.	19	6	1
4	I have to work hard.	21	5	
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	14	12	
6	My teacher listens to me.	22	4	
7	When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.	22	4	
8	I get praise when I do my best.	16	8	2
9	Other children are kind and behave well	3	23	
10	I am happy on the playground.	16	9	1
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	16	9	1
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	21	4	1

**Pupil Questionnaires (Year 6)**

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	Do you like being at this school?		18	2
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	16	4	
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	9	10	1
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	15	5	
5	Do you have to work hard?	12	8	
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	14	6	
7	Do other children behave well?	4	16	
8	Are teachers fair to you?	17	3	
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	13	7	
10	Are you given responsibility?	15	5	
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	8	12	