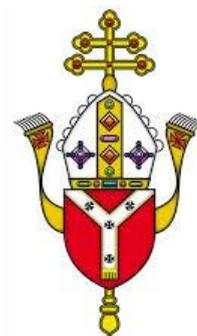


St Anselm's Catholic Primary School

Church Avenue. Southall. UB2 4BH.



Date of inspection by Westminster Diocese: 7 June 2017

Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

A. Classroom religious education is outstanding

- Religious education makes a strong contribution to the Catholic life of the school.
- The content of classroom religious education throughout all key stages meets the requirements of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory.
- The leadership team, religious education leader and governors have worked hard to improve the quality of teaching and learning since the previous inspection,
- The school's strong Catholic identity permeates all aspects of the school's learning environment.
- The curriculum is carefully planned and based on the relevant areas of the Curriculum Directory.
- The school's rigorous tracking systems show evidence of all groups of pupils making excellent progress in religious education.
- Teachers plan and teach lessons that are engaging and use appropriate learning styles that are creative and inspiring
- The pupils are actively engaged in their learning and make effective links between their knowledge and their way of life.
- The leadership and vision of the subject leader ensures that all staff are well supported.
- Teachers have high expectations and pupils are proactive in their learning.
- Pupils get a good start to their learning in the early years and there are effective programmes of learning in place.
- The SEF provides an accurate evaluation of the strengths and areas for development and there is evidence of action already being taken.

B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding

- The school's overall effectiveness in this area is outstanding.
- Religious education receives its full allocation of 10% taught at each key stage and thus meets the requirements of the Bishops' Conference.
- The school mission statement "In God's love we live, learn and grow" is central to the school's philosophy of growing in faith.
- The senior leadership team and staff have ensured that commitment to its Catholic identity is evident in all aspects of the work of the school.
- Worship and prayer are integral to the daily life of the school. The pupils' liturgical formation is well planned to ensure the widest possible experiences of the breadth and richness of Catholic prayer and worship.
- The school's commitment to the Common Good is a real strength of the school.
- Pupils spoke with immense pride about their Catholic faith and the call to serve the Common Good through their engagement with a number of charities and their awareness of helping those in need.
- Partnerships between home, school, parishes and the wider Catholic community are outstanding.
- Leadership and management of the school are outstanding and the governors make a highly significant contribution to the work and the Catholic dimension of the school.
- Parents are overwhelmingly positive about the school and express great appreciation of the way their children's faith life is nurtured.

A. Classroom Religious Education

What has improved since the last inspection?

The previous inspection highlighted two areas for improvement in classroom education. Develop the school's assessment procedures by providing exemplar portfolios that empower staff to assess pupils' on-going performance and underpin the validity of the school's tracking process. Rigorous tracking and monitoring of progress are now in place. The second area for improvement was to provide further extensive support for all staff teaching religious education (RE). The school has effectively put this into place and there are many opportunities for staff to share planning and resources. The RE leader provides support on developing planning and assessment strategies to include differentiation and recording pupil progress. This includes planning in cross phase teams and moderation of assessment to ensure teachers are secure with levelling.

The content of classroom religious education is outstanding

The content of classroom religious education throughout all key stages meets the requirements of the Curriculum Directory. The four areas of study outlined in the Curriculum Directory are embedded in the RE support materials that are used by the school. The RE curriculum allows numerous opportunities for pupils to develop religious literacy. There is a wide range of evidence of how skills are mapped to show progression across key stages. A good range of excellent resources are used to enhance the delivery of religious education. Religious education programmes are used creatively and supplement and enhance the delivery of the Curriculum Directory resulting in a progressive programme for each key stage. The senior leadership team and RE leader provide excellent support for all staff. All teachers know and understand the areas of the Curriculum Directory and are clear in their understanding of skills, knowledge and progression

Pupil achievement in religious education is outstanding

Attainment is as generally good as in other core subjects. The school's rigorous tracking systems show evidence of all groups of pupils making excellent progress in religious education. Moderation takes place frequently at school, as well as the involvement at deanery and diocesan levels to ensure accuracy. The pupils are keen to learn and excel through high teacher expectations. All pupils are proactive in their learning and participate enthusiastically in RE lessons and assemblies. Pupils are confident and articulate in their use of religious language and understanding. They know and understand what they should do to improve their work. In class, pupils' responses and work demonstrates the range of progress in religious education, across the school, from their starting points. Pupils learn about other faiths, in particular Sikhism as they have a teacher and pupils visiting from a local Sikh school. The pupils see religious education as a very important part of their lives and they are eager to share their knowledge and faith with others. This is supported by outstanding displays of religious vocabulary throughout classrooms and common areas of the school. Staff were keen to ensure all groups of pupils maximised their full potential in lessons.

The quality of teaching is outstanding

Teachers plan and teach lessons that are engaging and use appropriate learning styles that are creative and inspiring. The RE leader ensures there are regular planning sessions for all staff to embed support materials and differentiation of activities and methods of assessment. Teachers have consistently high expectations and plan and teach lessons that deepen pupils' religious literacy. Work is differentiated to support the EAL pupils in classes. Teachers have sound subject knowledge and teaching assistants are well deployed to support pupils in lessons. The quality of written work in the lessons observed and as part of the work scrutiny was of a very high standard. Pupils take a pride in their learning and were keen to respond to questioning and engage enthusiastically in

lessons. Many pupils said they enjoyed RE and one pupil commented 'We are here to learn about our faith, it helps us to become good people and we can teach others'. Teaching and marking is monitored regularly by the RE leader, supported by members of the senior leadership team through regular book checks and learning walks. The school provides a rich learning environment, which ensures all pupils have access to a variety of resources and artefacts to enhance their learning. There is evidence of high quality pupil centred displays, promoting the different liturgical celebrations and events over time. Behaviour in lessons and around the school is exemplary. The pupils were welcoming, courteous, mannerly and confident.

The effectiveness of leadership and management in promoting religious education is outstanding

The quality of leadership and management of religious education is outstanding. The senior leadership team and RE leader work hard to ensure the Catholic mission and religious education is at the heart of the school. There is a dynamic and creative vision for religious education in which staff consistently strive for excellence. The RE leader supports staff well and ensures that professional training is linked to individual staff needs and the programme of studies. There is a relentless focus on improving standards of work. All staff work together to ensure every pupil reaches their full potential and pupils are provided with many opportunities for spiritual growth and development. Leadership in the school ensures that religious education is part of staff appraisal and all staff have an RE target. A termly cycle of RE lesson observations takes place and this monitoring informs professional development which is provided on a regular basis by the RE leader. The RE leader has an excellent understanding of the strengths and areas for development in religious education and reviews work using pupil's views on topics. Self-assessment is both thorough and accurate and the leadership is actively engaged in improving the quality of religious education offered to the pupils.

What should the school do to develop further in classroom religious education?

- A greater focus on pupils achieving the higher levels at both key stages.

B. The Catholic life of the school

What has improved since the last inspection?

All staff now use the liturgical calendar and the quality of children's worship has been monitored. There are increasing opportunities for pupils to plan and lead class Masses and seasonal liturgies.

The place of religious education as the core of the curriculum

is outstanding

Religious education receives its full allocation of 10% taught at each key stage. RE is regarded as core in every sense: its budgets and teaching time allocation are comparable to other core subjects; it has the same opportunities as other areas of the curriculum; there is a high standard of accommodation. Classrooms and common areas reflect the importance of RE and the school's mission statement 'In God's love, we live, learn and grow' is at the core of daily life. The leadership team and governors offer outstanding support and active guidance in developing and reviewing the place of religious education in the school.

The experience of Catholic worship – prayer and liturgy – for the whole school community

is outstanding

The school excels at being a community based on Catholic tradition and practice. Worship and prayer are integral to the daily life of the school. The pupils' liturgical formation is well planned to ensure the widest possible experiences of the breadth and richness of Catholic prayer and worship. A range of creative resources are used to aid the pupils' experience of worship including a 'Prayer Bear' for younger children. The school recognises the gifts and talents of each pupil and pupils engage in collective worship in a very respectful and positive way. During class worship and assemblies pupils are reverent, respectful and able to join in the traditional prayers of the Church. They also sang beautifully during worship and assemblies. Pupils' spiritual development is enabled through the excellent opportunities the pupils have for quiet reflection, sharing and discussion of their faith. The class and hall displays encourage children to respond and reflect. Prayer tables provide a focal point for class worship. Displays in the hall include parents writing the 'Our Father' in their home language. Collaborative worship opportunities such as the feast day Mass, liturgical events and assemblies provide opportunities for the school community to come together. Pupils participate in and support the local parish by attending Mass each week. The quality and opportunities for prayer and worship are reviewed and evaluated regularly and action taken on areas for development.

The contribution to the Common Good – service and social justice –

is outstanding

The school's commitment to the Common Good is a real strength of the school. The governors, leadership team and all the staff are totally committed to the dignity of the human person and the Church's call to action for justice and peace. The school helps pupils develop an informed conscience and to take responsibility for their actions. The school has supported many charities including the local food bank, Cafod, Catholic Children's Society and World Child Cancer. The school choir perform carols at a local residential home for the elderly as well as participating in the deanery Mass. The school recognises the needs of its own community and covers themes of inequality, injustice and prejudice throughout the school year. These are explored through Black History, Remembrance Day, anti-bullying and e-safety focus weeks which all contribute to pupils' understanding of local and global issues. Visitors to the school from Caritas and local homeless project have helped pupils recognise the plight of poor and homeless people and the difference the

school could make in their future. The pupils have developed a greater understanding of the importance of looking after the environment by reading extracts from 'Laudato Si.' Pupils are given opportunities to show service and leadership through a range of responsibility roles including prefects, monitors and members of the school council, focusing on looking after the environment and becoming more eco-aware. The school has established Year 6 RE leaders who actively lead during assemblies and worship. Pupils spoke confidently of the theological underpinning of their understanding of the Common Good as one pupil commented 'as Jesus told us, as Catholics, it is our mission to love one another'. All the gifts of the pupils were recognised and celebrated and pupils were encouraged to share with others which illustrate their deep and profound understanding of the call to serve.

The partnership with parents, school and parish, and collaboration as an integral part of the diocese through its relationship with the diocesan Bishop and those acting on his behalf

is outstanding

The school makes every effort to maintain a strong partnership with parents and works closely with them to develop a shared understanding of the mission of the school. The parents are very supportive of the work of the school and clearly value the work it does in educating their children. Parish links are excellent and the parish priest of the local parish is also the link governor for RE. Staff and governors attend a range of diocesan, deanery and local authority briefings and training, to keep up to date with significant local initiatives. Pupils have the opportunity to be involved in a range of extended school activities. The school was an active participant in the 'Jubilee of Mercy' and set up their 'door of mercy' as an outdoor classroom, which remains open as a reminder to the pupils to act with mercy. The school collaborates with local Catholic primary schools and schools of other denominations and faith traditions such as the local secondary school and a Sikh primary school. The school has become the lead school for a project providing on-site therapy service for vulnerable children experiencing social, emotional and behavioural difficulties in the Southall area.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management in promoting the Catholic life of the school

is outstanding

The leadership and management are clearly outstanding in promoting the Catholic life of the school. The senior leadership team is the driving force in its commitment to the education of every child with a vision of discipleship for life. They are fully committed to ensuring that RE is planned for, delivered and monitored with utmost rigour, ensuring high quality of teaching and learning enabling pupils to become increasingly more religiously literate. Support is provided through coaching and mentoring, especially for non-Catholic colleagues and those new to teaching or new to working in a Catholic school. In addition, opportunities for prayer, meditation and reflection are of equal importance as well as opportunities for giving to charity. The governing body has a very strong dedication and commitment to the Catholic life of the school. They have high levels of expertise and understand their strategic role. The link RE governor undertakes 'governor visits,' and reports on improvement priorities. The school's mission statement is at the heart of all their work and influences decisions and policy making. The school is developing pupils' understanding of other faiths through a structured programme including visitors from other faiths and visits to local places of worship.

What should the school do to develop further the Catholic life of the school?

- To further embed the work of the pupil 'RE leaders' and for them to work with younger classes in the school, particularly in leading collective worship in the classroom.

Information about this school

- The school is a one form entry Catholic voluntary aided school in the locality of Southall.
- The school serves the parish of St Anselm's, Southall.
- The proportion of pupils who are baptised Catholic is 94%.
- The proportion of pupils who are from other Christian denominations is 4 % and from other faiths is 2%.
- The percentage of Catholic teachers in the school is 67%.
- The number of teachers with a Catholic qualification is seven.
- There are 8.1% of pupils in the school with special educational needs or disabilities of whom 4 have statements of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)/ Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP).
- The proportion of pupils from minority ethnic groups is well above average.
- The number of pupils speaking English as an Additional Language is well above average.
- There is a below average rate of families claiming free school meals.
- 33 pupils receive the Pupil Premium (16%).

Department for Education Number	307 3505
Unique Reference Number	101922
Local Authority	Ealing

Type of school	Primary
School category	Voluntary Aided
Age range of pupils	4 -11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Number of pupils on roll	247
The appropriate authority	The governing body
Chair	Mrs Gill Wickham
Headteacher	Mrs Ruth Sykes
Telephone number	020 8574 3906
Website	www.stanselmscatholicprimaryschool.co.uk
Email address	office@st-anselms.ealing.sch.uk
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2012
Grades from previous inspection:	
Classroom religious education	Good
The Catholic life of the school	Very Good

Information about this inspection

This inspection was carried out (i) under the requirements of the Canon 806 and (ii) in accordance with the Framework for Diocesan Inspections 2015 approved by the Archbishop of Westminster and (iii) under section 48 of the Education Act 2005.

- The inspectors would like to thank the governors, headteacher, staff, pupils and parents for their co-operation over the conduct of the inspection.
- During the inspection 7 lessons or part lessons were observed.
- The inspectors attended 2 assemblies and 1 act of worship.
- Meetings were held with school staff, pupils and governors.
- Other evidence was gathered from contacts with parents through a questionnaire, scrutiny of a sample of pupils' work, observation of pupils in and out of lessons and examination of school documents.

Inspection Grades

- Outstanding
- Good
- Requires improvement
- Causing concern

Inspection Team

The inspectors are appointed by the Archbishop.

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Lead Inspector

Mrs Dee Abbott

Associate Inspector

Mrs Helen Lines

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