



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School:	Our Lady's Catholic Primary School
Address:	Old Chapel Street Edgeley Stockport SK3 9HX
Tel No:	0161 480 5345
URN:	106114
Headteacher:	Mrs C Beswick
Chair of Governors:	Mrs C Gould
Date of Inspection:	24 June 2013
Inspectors:	Mr K Toms Miss J Chwastek



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

'Living and Learning in Faith'

Mission Statement

The aim of Our Lady's Catholic Primary School is:

To provide a loving Catholic environment which will help each individual member of the school family grow morally, spiritually and academically in the love of Jesus Christ.

This means we aim to meet our children's needs in the light of the Good News of Jesus Christ that God loves us all. This is found in the life of the school through:

- The quality of relationships based on love, care, respect and trust.
- Prayer, reflection and celebration
- Learning and teaching that enables children to reach their full potential.
- Partnership between home, school and parish.

"LIVING AND LEARNING IN FAITH"

FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll		25	30	30	29	28	19	25	186
Catholics on roll		13	22	29	29	17	19	23	152
Other Christian denomination		0	1	0	0	1	0	0	2
Other faith background		0	2	1	0	0	0	0	3
No stated religious affiliation		12	5	0	0	10	0	2	29
Number of learners from ethnic groups		5	7	4	7	5	1	6	35
Total on SEN Register		5	7	5	6	10	3	6	42
Total with Statements of SEN		0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
FSM		6	6	9	7	5	3	10	46

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	0
Index of multiple deprivation	21st			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
Our Lady and the Apostles	152

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

PUPILS TRANSFER	
Name of School	No of Pupils
St James' Catholic High School	20

RE TEACHING TIME	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Total RE teaching time (Hours)	N/A	2hrs	2hrs	2hrs	2 ½ hrs	2 ½ hrs	2 ½ hrs	2 ½ hrs	16 hrs

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	7
Part-time teachers	2
Total full-time equivalent	8
Support assistants	8
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	63%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	8
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	4
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	1

Published admission number	30
Number of classes	7
Average class size KS1	28
Average class size KS2	25

FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2011/12	Current financial year 2012/13	Next financial year 2013/14
RE	3150	2100	2100
English	5400	2000	2000
Mathematics	1500	1500	1500
Science	200	200	200

Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate	Judgement
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OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS	2
<p>Overall outcomes for pupils are good with some aspects which are outstanding, particularly in the way pupils contribute to, and benefit from, the Catholic life of the school. The children are immensely proud of their school and appreciate the opportunities they get to develop their role within the school and its wider community. They increasingly play an active role in leading prayer and other liturgical celebrations, and value the links they have with their parish community. The behaviour of children throughout the inspection was excellent; and they are well aware of the need to seek justice for all within and beyond their community. They expressed their views with confidence and were appreciative of the Parish Priest's informal visits to the school and of the visits they make to the nearby church.</p> <p>The standards the children achieve are mostly above average, with some that are outstanding. Children are actively involved in assessing each other's work and know what they need to do to improve. They enjoy their lessons and particularly appreciate the opportunities to develop their ideas through drama, music and other creative means. During the inspection children concentrated well and settled to tasks quickly. They displayed very good prior learning and were enthusiastic and keen to do their best. This was certainly reflected in the quality and obvious pride the children have in the work presented in their books.</p> <p>Pupils acted with reverence during the Collective Act of Worship, lunch time prayer service and opportunities provided for reflection within lessons.</p> <p>The school is keen to develop pupils' skills in planning and leading these opportunities and to introduce the "Mini-Vinnies" scheme to help develop a wider understanding of their sense of the Church's mission.</p>	

LEADERS AND MANAGERS	1
<p>Leaders, governors and managers are, without doubt, deeply committed to the Church's mission in education. This is clearly evident in the way tracking, assessment and monitoring of Religious Education has been improved since the last inspection. There are now excellent systems in place, which allow leaders to target more precisely the improvement in outcomes for all pupils. This has resulted in continuing improvements in attainment in Religious Education, so that all children make good progress with some making very good progress. Self-evaluation is undertaken with rigour and leaders are effective in taking strategic action to target improvement.</p> <p>A number of governors have recently joined the school and are actively developing their roles. The Parish Priest is also new to the parish and is keen to support the school and the integral role it plays in the wider parish mission. The newly appointed Religious Education coordinator is proving to be a real asset to the school. She is very effectively building on the good work achieved since the last inspection.</p> <p>Monitoring of lessons is very effective, with clear actions for further improvement to teaching and learning outcomes, identified and reported to staff. The new Religious Education scheme, <i>The Way, The Truth and The Life</i>, has been carefully introduced so that all staff feel supported in delivering the scheme and using supplementary material, where necessary. The in-service needs of the staff are being effectively met. All staff are gaining support from joint planning sessions and discussions of termly topics. Opportunities to challenge pupils' thinking, through targeted questioning techniques, are an integral part of the planning process.</p> <p>The Mission Statement clearly underpins the life of the school. It has been carefully developed, by all within the school community, over a number of years. Leaders rightly recognise, that with the addition of new governors and a new Religious Education coordinator, now is a good time to re-visit the Mission Statement.</p>	

PROVISION	1
<p>Teaching and learning in Religious Education is consistently good and much is outstanding. This was reflected, during the inspection, in the lessons observed and the monitoring and assessment records kept by the school. The children are inspired to produce their very best in Religious Education lessons and this is evident in the obvious pride they take in presenting their work. Marking is used to encourage children to deepen their thinking and help them attain the next steps in their work. All staff are keen to inspire children's thinking and learning, through a more creative approach, as well as, more formal recordings of their work. This forms an important part of the planning process undertaken by the staff. All teaching assistants are fully and effectively used to support pupil learning in Religious Education. Children are actively encouraged, through the use of the visualizer to critically assess each other's work and constructively help each other to make improvements. Excellent resources are used to support Religious Education lessons, and ICT is effectively used to enhance pupils learning.</p> <p>Provision for Collective Acts of Worship is outstanding, with a wide range of opportunities for children to explore the liturgical year and deepen their own spiritual development. The children, as a result, are very responsive and are keen to further their own independence in leading these acts of worship. Acts of Worship are led by different members of staff and, together with informal class gatherings, are included in the monitoring and assessment programme.</p> <p>The pupils understand the need to acknowledge and welcome people of other faiths and appropriate topics are included in the curriculum to support this work.</p>	




OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS	1
<p>Our Lady's provides an outstanding Catholic Education for its pupils with all pupils making at least good and some outstanding progress. The children have a clear sense of their Catholic mission and they fully appreciate belonging to this faith community. The Mission Statement "Living and Learning in Faith" clearly underpins and permeates all aspects of the school's work. All strive for the highest standards in Religious Education. Areas of improvement identified during the last inspection have been fully met and actions effectively implemented. Consequently the school is in a strong position to continue to improve.</p> <p>What the school could do to improve further</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Further develop the pupils' own leadership skills in leading and shaping Collective Acts of Worship and the wider role they can play thorough such things as the "Mini-Vinnies." - Continue to raise standards in Religious Education so that more children can achieve the higher levels in their work. - Re-visit the Mission Statement. 	

PARENTS' QUESTIONNAIRES

51 Questionnaires Returned

	please tick	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child enjoys school	34	14	1		
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	33	18			
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	30	21			
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	19	27	2		3
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	22	22	2	1	4
6	The school enables my child/ren to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	33	12	3		3
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	22	23	2	1	3

PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRES (YEAR 2)

	Dear Children, Please put a tick under the face that you think is your best answer to each question. Thank you!	yes 	sometimes 	no 
1	I like being at this school.	25	5	
2	I learn new things in R.E. lessons.	27	3	
3	I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.	29	1	
4	I have to work hard.	25	5	
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	20	10	
6	My teacher listens to me.	30		
7	<i>When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.</i>	26	4	
8	I get praise when I do my best.	22	8	
9	Other children are kind and behave well	22	8	
10	<i>I am happy on the playground.</i>	16	14	
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	26	4	
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	29	1	

PUPIL QUESTIONNAIRES (YEAR 6)

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	Do you like being at this school?	17	6	
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	17	6	
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	14	8	1
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	22	1	
5	Do you have to work hard?	18	5	
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	22	1	
7	Do other children behave well?	14	9	
8	Are teachers fair to you?	20	3	
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	18	5	
10	Are you given responsibility?	17	6	
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	18	4	1