



DIOCESE OF  
**SHREWSBURY**

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SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School:	St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Address:	Cheetham Hill Road, Dukinfield SK16 5LD
Tel No:	0161 368 4824
URN:	106240
Headteacher:	Mr J Murray
Chair of Governors:	Rev J O O'Doherty
Date of Inspection:	21 March 2013
Inspectors:	Mrs C Morgan Mrs R Hedger

## Our Mission

Mission is the commitment of all Christians, by virtue of their Baptism, to work so that the Spirit of the Gospel permeates all elements and aspects of their lives, their society and their world.

The Governors, Staff and Parents at St. Mary's School consider the following statement to be consistent with their vision of the Mission:

**“St. Mary's School works to develop the full human potential of each individual in an environment where the Christian Gospel values of love, peace, truth and justice are demonstrated.”**

This means we aim to meet our pupils' needs in the light of the Gospels. We firmly believe it is our religious dimension, which makes St. Mary's School distinctive.

It is found in the School in:

- ◇ the quality of relationships based on care and respect;
- ◇ the belief that all knowledge and learning comes from Christ;
- ◇ The delivery of a broad and balanced curriculum, which is based on the above, and which is designed to enable all children to reach the highest standard of personal achievement.

Our basic purpose is the communication of Christ through all we do.

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll		30	30	30	30	29	29	31	209
Catholics on roll		24	17	14	21	17	17	21	131
Other Christian denomination									
Other faith background		2	7	9	5	8	8	6	45
No stated religious affiliation		4	6	7	4	4	4	4	31
Number of learners from ethnic groups									
Total on SEN Register		0	3	3	5	4	3	3	21
Total with Statements of SEN		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
FSM		5	4	7	4	6	6	5	37

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	0
Index of multiple deprivation	0.23 for 2012			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
St Mary's Dukinfield	151
St. Paul's Hyde	46
St. Christopher's A-U-L	4
St. Peter's Stalybridge	5
St. Raphael's Stalybridge	3

With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred	
PUPILS TRANSFER	(2013)
Name of School	No of Pupils
All Saints	22
St Damien's	2
St Thomas More	3

RE TEACHING TIME	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total RE teaching time (Hours)	2 hours 10 mins	2 hours 10 mins	2 hours 10 mins	2 hours 15 mins	2 hours 15 mins	2 hours 15 mins	2 hours 15 mins	15 hours 30 mins

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	9
Part-time teachers	1
Total full-time equivalent	9.5
Support assistants (Teaching)	10
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	80%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	80%
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	4
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	0

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

## FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2011/12	Current financial year 2012/13	Next financial year 2013/14
RE	2534	1525	1500
English	2447	1476	2000
Mathematics	1929	456	1000
Science	210	1512	1500

<b>Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate</b>	<b>Judgement</b>
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<b>OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>At St. Mary's, there is a high level of pupil engagement in leading and taking responsibility for activities related to the religious life of the school and of involvement in the local community. They are proud of who they are and speak with confidence about their faith and their school. Pupils' behaviour is excellent and they understand that 'every action has a reaction'. The family groupings, buddy system and whole school rewards encourage pupils to develop a caring, respectful attitude to their work, play and each other. Members of the 'Mini Vinnies' group spoke about changes that had come about through issues being raised by pupils and discussed in their meetings with staff. A range of celebrations and traditions such as Reception pupils making an altar cloth of their own pictures that they use throughout their time in school and for the Leavers' Mass in Year 6 ensures that every pupil feels special.</p> <p>In their Religious Education lessons, pupils work hard and achieve high standards, comparable with those in English. They enjoy the variety of different activities, concentrate very well and tackle new concepts with enthusiasm.</p> <p>Some pupils were observed leading Collective Worship for the whole school. They were confident, engaged other pupils' interest and encouraged thoughtful reflection and prayer.</p>	

<b>LEADERS AND MANAGERS</b>	<b>2</b>
<p>The Headteacher, Religious Education subject leader, Parish Priest, governors and staff are fully committed to fulfilling the Church's mission in education and living out the school's Mission Statement. There is a deep sense of community within the school and for its place within the parish. There is strong support for Parish and school events.</p> <p>Self-evaluation is strong and there is a strategic plan for continuing improvement in all areas of Religious Education.</p> <p>Lessons, planning and pupils' work are part of planned programme of monitoring by the Senior Leadership Team. The results of monitoring are analysed and shared with governors who provide support and challenge.</p> <p>Assessment in Religious Education is well established and staff are developing ways in which they can assess and moderate the new Diocesan scheme of work. Analysis of end of Key Stage One and Key Stage Two results shows expected progress is at least good and some is outstanding.</p> <p>Staff and pupils understand the prime importance of the Catholic life of the school and, as a result, they are articulate in explaining how this impacts on all they do. New staff are supported in delivering the Religious Education programme and in planning Liturgies and Masses. All the teaching staff attend an annual Deanery training day for reflection and renewal.</p>	

<b>PROVISION</b>	<b>2</b>
<p>In the Religious Education lessons observed during the inspection, effective teaching ensured that all pupils were fully engaged in the learning process. Pupils are interested and enthusiastic about the variety of activities and resources, including the use of ICT, which they use to good effect. Teachers exhibit good subject knowledge and, as a result, pupils are developing their use of religious language and their understanding of their faith.</p> <p>Behaviour in lessons is very good and support staff help to deliver effective strategies for engaging all pupils.</p> <p>Lessons are well planned and differentiated. Oral feedback and marking is consistently good so that pupils understand how well they have done and know what they have to do to improve and progress.</p>	

There are opportunities for spiritual and moral guidance within lessons and in various before and after school activities. Pupils appreciate their teachers and the staff; they understand that teachers will challenge them to achieve their best but also that they will help and support them.

The Religious Education at St. Mary's is in line with diocesan policy and guidance. Good use is made of Diocesan training to ensure that staff are supported in their delivery of the curriculum.

Acts of Collective Worship have a high profile within the school. Resources are excellent and are well used. Opportunities for prayer and reflection are frequent and well planned and there are also designated focal points provided for use by staff and pupils. The whole school and the parish contribute to Sacramental preparation and celebration. Parents appreciate the community spirit encouraged by the school and the care and support staff give to the pupils. They enjoy the many liturgical celebrations and events held during the course of the year.

<b>OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS</b>	<b>2</b>
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The overall effectiveness of the Catholic Education provided by St. Mary's school is judged to be good.

Outcomes for pupils are outstanding.

The provision for Catholic Education is good overall and the quality of Collective Worship provided is outstanding.

The effectiveness of Leaders and managers in developing the Catholic life of the school is good with some outstanding elements.

**What the school could do to improve further**

- Consider where in the timetable Religious Education is placed and look at ways of planning lessons throughout the week and at different times.
- Plan for ways in which the pupils' role in planning and leading Collective Worship and prayer and reflection could be further developed throughout the school.

## INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

<b>Key to judgements: Grade 1 = outstanding, grade 2 = good, grade 3 = requires improvement and grade 4 = inadequate</b>	<b>Judgement</b>
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<b><u>OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS</u></b>	
<b>How good outcomes are for pupils, taking particular account of variations between different groups</b>	<b>1</b>
The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic life of the school	1
How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education	2
How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship	1

<b><u>LEADERS GOVERNORS AND MANAGERS</u></b>	
<b>How effective leaders, governors and managers are in developing the Catholic life of the school</b>	<b>2</b>
How well leaders, governors and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for the Catholic life of the school and plan and implement improvement to outcomes for pupils	1
How well leaders, governors and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education and plan and implement improvement to outcomes for pupils	2

<b><u>PROVISION</u></b>	
<b>How effective the provision is in promoting Catholic Education</b>	<b>2</b>
The quality of teaching and how purposeful learning is in Religious Education	2
The extent to which the Religious Education curriculum promotes pupils' learning	2
The quality of Collective Worship provided by the school	1

<b><u>OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS</u></b>	
<b>How effective the school is in providing Catholic Education</b>	<b>2</b>

## **PARENTS QUESTIONNAIRE**

		<b>Strongly Agree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
1	My child enjoys school	56	53	1		1
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	68	40	2		
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	77	34	2		
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	52	47	5	2	6
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	55	48	5		4
6	The school enables my child/ren to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	55	47	1		7
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	44	51	12	1	5

## **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YEAR 2 PUPILS**

		<b>Yes</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>No</b>
1	I like being at this school.	24	5	1
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.	22	6	1
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	27	1	
6	My teacher listens to me.	21	7	
7	When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.	24	5	
8	I get praise when I do my best.	27	3	
9	Other children are kind and behave well	18	11	1
10	I am happy on the playground.	14	13	3
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	25	5	
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	29		1

## **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR YEAR 6 PUPILS**

		<b>Yes</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>No</b>
1	Do you like being at this school?	21	8	1
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	17	13	
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	5	22	3
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	27	3	
5	Do you have to work hard?	25	5	
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	29	1	
7	Do other children behave well?	3	24	3
8	Are teachers fair to you?	24	5	1
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	23	7	
10	Are you given responsibility?	24	6	
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	16	14	