



**DIOCESE OF LANCASTER EDUCATION SERVICE**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION  
REPORT (Section 48)**

**St William's Catholic Primary School**  
**Pilling**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION  
REPORT (Section 48)**

on

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

**School:**

**St William's Catholic Primary School Pilling**

**Address:**

**Garstang Road  
Pilling  
Preston  
PR3 6AL**

**Telephone Number:**

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**Email Address:**

**head@st-williams.lancs.sch.uk**

**School URN:**

**119630**

**Headteacher:**

**Miss Samantha Solloway**

**Chair of Governors:**

**Mrs Jane Clements**

**Lead Inspector:**

**Mrs Adrienne Delaney**

**Team Inspector:**

**Mrs Rachel Ballard**

**Date of Inspection:**

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

St William's is a Catholic Voluntary Aided primary school situated in the small rural village of Pilling in the Diocese of Lancaster. It is a small sized primary school with currently 36 pupils on roll 42% of whom are baptised Roman Catholics. Other pupils come from no faith or other Christian backgrounds. There are two main classes, one being the Foundation Stage, Year 1, and Year 2 and the other class is made up of all Key Stage 2 pupils.

Approximately 35% of pupils are on the SEND register.

The school building is surrounded by a great deal of land and this is utilised by the school for play areas and outside learning areas. At present all the children in the school are of white British heritage.

PUPILS	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on roll	4	5	3	6	6	9	3	36
Catholics on roll	3	2	1	3	2	4	0	15
Other Christian denomination	0	0	1	1	1	3	0	6
Other faith background	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
No religious affiliation	1	3	1	2	3	2	3	15
No of learners from ethnic groups	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total on SEN Register	0	1	2	2	3	2	0	10
Total with Statements of SEND (EHP)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	2

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	1
Index of multiple deprivation	50-60% lowest percentile			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
St William's Pilling	2
St Bernard's Knott End	2
Saint Mary and Saint Michael Garstang	3
Saint Bernadette's Bispham	1

TEACHING TIME FOR RE	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	17.5
% of teaching time	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%

TEACHING TIME FOR ENGLISH	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
% of teaching time	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

<b>TEACHING TIME FOR MATHS</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Y1</b>	<b>Y2</b>	<b>Y3</b>	<b>Y4</b>	<b>Y5</b>	<b>Y6</b>	<b>Total</b>
Total teaching time (Hours)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
% of teaching time	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

<b>STAFFING</b>	
Full-time teachers	2
Part-time teachers	2
Total full-time equivalent (FTE)	3.5
Classroom Support assistants	4
Number of Catholic teachers FTE	80%
Number of teachers teaching RE	2
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	2
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	0
Chaplaincy staffing	0

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	
Published admission number	12
Number of classes	2
Average class size KS1	12 EYFS included
Average class size KS2	24

<b>EXPENDITURE (£)</b>	<b>Last financial year 2020-21</b>	<b>Current financial year 2021-2022</b>	<b>Next financial year 2022-23</b>
Total expenditure on teaching and learning resources	£ £5714- £2700	£ £7552	£ Not yet determined
RE Curriculum allowance from above	£400	£500	
English Curriculum allowance from above	£300+£2700	£755	
Total CPD budget	£1700	£1700	
RE allocation for CPD	£600	£600	

<b>How the school has developed since the last inspection</b>
<p>Aspects for improvement since the last inspection have been addressed and have had a positive impact on raising standards. A baseline assessment and tracking system across the school are in place, governors are informed and are monitoring attainment and progress in curriculum Religious Education (RE). The leadership team has devised a curriculum which covers all aspects of the RE directives and they are aware of the pending new guidance. Parish links are having positive outcomes on the life and mission of the school. Improvements are identified and acted upon through marking, monitoring and assessment.</p> <p>The school has a good capacity to sustain this continuous improvement. The dedication of the governors together with the commitment of the leadership team and all staff, demonstrate the capacity to facilitate continuous improvement. Inspection has shown that self-evaluation is accurate.</p>

## INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

### OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

2

### CATHOLIC LIFE

2

### RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

2

### OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

St William's is a good and improving Catholic school. It is very welcoming and has inclusion for all as a central goal and a shared vision. The school's ethos statement 'With God we are strong together; we can achieve together' is lived out daily, as is their longer mission statement that concludes with the sentence 'We will teach them to live, love and learn in the way that Jesus taught us'. Pupils enjoy attending their school and can articulate positive attitudes to learning. Several pupils described St William's as 'a supportive school'. Pupils deepen the knowledge of their faith throughout their time in school and gain a firm understanding of Catholic practice. Governors play a significant part in leading the strategic direction of the school in the community that it serves. The board of governors are dedicated to ensuring that there are strong parish links, that the Catholic life is monitored and that a broad RE curriculum is being accessed by pupils. The headteacher and RE leader have addressed the recommendations from the last inspection. All leaders and staff place emphasis on raising standards and putting the Catholic life of the school at the forefront of their plans for St William's Catholic Primary School.

The Catholic life of the school is good and the commitment from the leadership team, the governors, staff, and parish laity to support pupils in their prayer life and growth in faith has remained a priority during periods of change, for example the Covid pandemic. Staff set good examples, support each other, are proud of their school and they work well together. Staff welcome the continuous professional development (CPD) offered. The Parish Priest is a regular and welcome visitor to the school, actively fulfilling his role both pastorally and canonically. One Year 6 child said, 'If we have questions, Father Paul answers them.' Children participate in the Mass and receive the sacraments regularly. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is good and has an impact on everyday life at St William's. This can be seen through pupils' responses to each other and in their understanding of the notion of the common good. The pupils willingly become involved in a variety of activities, supporting their own and the wider community. They have raised funds for a local homeless charity and CAFOD, and the active school council responds spontaneously to other deserving causes. This contributes to pupils' social, emotional and moral development. Parents appreciate the school's efforts and they welcome opportunities to participate in Catholic life.

Gospel values are integral to school life and pupils are helped to grow in their spirituality, make the most of their abilities and nurture their faith.

Many opportunities for prayer and liturgy are embedded and are monitored and evaluated. Pupils act with reverence and join in prayers confidently. Prayer and liturgies observed on the day of inspection demonstrate that children prepare and plan these with care and respect. They make full use of resources available to them and appreciate the opportunities offered, for example, Masses and liturgies.

The quality of curriculum RE is good overall and pupils are provided with a range of learning opportunities to deepen their faith, to understand Catholic traditions and practices, and to make progress in their learning. Pupils enjoy RE lessons and many aspects of the curriculum are good. Clear action plans are in place to continue to raise attainment and progress and to ensure that early career teachers access training to ensure good teaching and learning in RE. The monitoring and assessment of all elements of the curriculum leads to the identification of next steps in learning. The RE leader and headteacher have devised a programme of work that is tailored to meet the Catholic requirements.

Teachers' subject knowledge is good and has a positive impact on the delivery of curriculum RE. Teachers are well supported in terms of professional development. The curriculum meets the needs of all learners in line with diocesan and national recommendations.

Governors and leaders take full account of the '*Fit for Mission? Schools*' guidance.

HRSE recommendations are being acted upon, the policy is in place and appropriate learning is being accessed.

The school's capacity to maintain improving standards is good.

## **WHAT THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO DO TO IMPROVE FURTHER**

To improve further the school needs to:

Improve outcomes for all pupils by:

- Ensuring consistent provision across the key stages so that all teaching and learning is appropriate to the needs of the pupils.
- ensuring that teaching and learning about other faiths and cultures is embedded in curriculum RE plans

Celebrate successes by:

- Continuing the strong links that have been built with the parish community.
- Strengthening the links with local schools and preparing to join the Catholic multi academy trust, so that good practice can be shared.

## PART A: CATHOLIC LIFE

### THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

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- The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school
- How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for the Catholic Life of the school
- The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school

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Inspection confirms the judgement made by the school that pupils make an outstanding contribution to the Catholic life of the school.

Governors, leaders, teachers and support staff at St William's are committed to supporting the Catholic ethos of the school and its mission and this culture is embedded in the life of the school family.

The pupils' knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Life of School is greatly enhanced by their participation in and contribution to many aspects of school life. Pupils know that they belong to St William's Parish family and are proud to be part of the school and parish. For example, a pupil interviewed said 'We pray for people in our community'. On the day of inspection Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 1 pupils led prayer with the whole school. The children answered the response to the gospel and were reverent throughout. The children from the nursery also attended. From the Nursery and Foundation Stage onwards pupils are beginning to demonstrate their ability to share their own faith through whole class prayer and liturgy. Pupils sing hymns readily and joyfully. During pupil interviews, on the day of inspection, one pupil spontaneously sang a hymn, after which the other children applauded. Pupils understand that their Catholic faith is different from other faiths and that they share this distinctiveness with other Catholic schools. They share activities when possible with other schools within the Catholic cluster. The school takes part in many community activities that have enabled their understanding of wider community and the common good. Examples of this are the celebration of Mass with the parish, fundraising with the parish and collecting money for CAFOD, the homeless and hungry, and a local hospice. Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 pupils spoken to on the day of inspection could readily discuss their actions as part of their knowledge of Catholic values. Their practice of these is affirmed and rewarded.

On the day of inspection, a pupil said that at St William's 'we enjoy learning about Jesus and we are stronger together, which is a part of our mission statement'. This articulation of ethos encourages best behaviour and focused learning. Catholic principles and values are at the core of behaviour and relationship policies resulting in a strong and shared vision for the Catholic life of St William's.

The Parish Priest, lay helpers in school, governors, school leaders, teachers and support staff are fully committed to fulfilling their role in ensuring that provision remains good for the Catholic Life of the school. Their expectations are high and they are working together to implement the Catholic philosophy of education. The SLT provides a clear direction for the Catholic life of the school and the spiritual and moral development of pupils.

The governors, leaders and managers are committed to partnerships with the diocesan family of parishes and schools. The school has plans to join the Blessed Edward Bamber Catholic Multi Academy Trust (BEBCMAT) in the Diocese.

The quality of provision for the Catholic life of the school is good. St William's is an inclusive, welcoming and friendly community with a very strong family ethos where everyone is valued and pupils and the staff flourish. There is a palpable sense of family and community in all aspects of school life. This is evident in the quality of relationships that exist between all stakeholders.

The school is a prayerful community that provides an appealing learning environment to reflect the school's mission and its Catholic character. Staff and governors work hard to develop and enhance the school for the benefit of everyone at St William's. Staff INSET has ensured CPD in RE and staff subject knowledge has been strengthened through reflection and through training from the senior leadership team (SLT) and opportunities offered. Diocesan training has been offered and accepted.



## PART B: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### THE QUALITY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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- How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education
- How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education
- The quality of provision in Religious Education

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Inspection confirms the school's judgement that the extent to which pupils enjoy and achieve in RE is good.

The majority pupils at St William's enjoy RE, are religiously literate and engaged in their learning. Many pupils are able to remain on task when entering into discussion and working independently. Through active participation in prayer and liturgies, together with good and meticulously planned curriculum coverage, pupils show a good knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith. They now need to be given further opportunities over Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 in order to learn about faiths and practices other than their own, in particular Judaism and Islam, so as to learn about the roots of monotheistic cultures. Pupils understand that Christ is at the centre of all school life and are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life. For example, one pupil said 'St William's teaches us to love one another as Jesus loves us.'

Many pupils begin to make good progress in RE from a low baseline when they join St William's in Foundation Stage. They are beginning to develop and apply a range of skills throughout Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, including self-reliance and imagination. The nursery pupils have access to RE at their own level and this may help the baseline assessment in future. Further support and sharing of good practice within the Blessed Edward Bamber Academy Trust will further enhance teaching and provision in those stages, as will targeted support for early career teachers. Skills are built upon in Key Stage 2 where pupils are able to reflect upon their own scriptural knowledge of, for example, the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how these can shape our lives. This knowledge enables them to forgive, love and respect and to reflect on the notion of justice and the common good.

Tracking demonstrates that pupils' attainment is good and analysis shows that all groups make at least expected progress.

Pupil attainment and progress is good and in line with standards in other core subjects. Pupils have a great respect for each other and can discuss the Catholic faith readily. They now need to be given more opportunities to learn about Judaism, as the root of their faith, and of Islam.

Good quality teaching and learning was observed on the day of inspection. Most pupils enjoy their learning because teachers try to make their lessons relevant and interesting.

Pupils' progress in RE is good and analysis of results is ongoing. Parents state that they are happy with the school and questionnaires affirm this. Children's progress is reported to parents in regular reports, alongside other core subjects. The school's website is updated to inform parents of curriculum RE and the Catholic life.

Inspection found that leadership and management in RE is good. Leaders, governors, teachers have supported changes made over the years ensuring that good practice is sustained and leads to best outcomes for pupils. The head teacher and RE leader have an accurate view of the quality of teaching and learning, monitoring and evaluation in St William's. They are clear about the improvements needed and, supported by governors, and staff have devised a unique curriculum whilst they await new directives. This will help to ensure progression of tasks and good outcomes for pupils.

Curriculum RE is at the forefront of teaching. Modelling teaching of RE, monitoring of lesson plans, formal and informal observations together with book scrutiny and conversations with pupils are carried out by SLT, ensuring that the improvement quality of teaching and learning remains a priority.

Teaching in RE is good overall and inspection found provision to be of a good standard. Support staff are deployed effectively to assist pupils with additional needs. In lessons observed, teachers showed good subject knowledge, built on prior learning and differentiated tasks to suit the needs of most learners. However, the practice of peer tutoring and observation of good practice would greatly enhance teaching and learning and secure good and outstanding teaching across the key stages. Next step marking is embedded and pupils spoken to on the day of inspection knew what to do to improve their work.

The quality of displays around the school is good and reflects the pupils' learning.

The RE curriculum meets the requirements of the Bishops' Conference and is informed by the Curriculum Directory and diocesan requirements.

The headteacher, RE leader, governors, teachers and support staff have sought opportunities to reflect on the teaching of RE and the Catholic Life of the school. SLT have ensured CPD for staff. Resources are used effectively and enhance teaching and learning in St William's School.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

<b>Overall Effectiveness</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Capacity for sustained improvement</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Catholic Life</b>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How well leaders and managers promote and ensure provision for the Catholic Life of the school through monitoring and evaluation.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The quality of provision in Religious Education.</li> </ul>	<b>2</b>

	<b>Pupil Outcomes</b>	<b>Leadership &amp; Management</b>	<b>Provision</b>	<b>Overall</b>
<b>Catholic Life</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>