



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School:	Holy Family Catholic Primary School
Address:	Old Hall Road Sale Moor M33 2JA
Tel No:	0161 962 5397
URN:	106345
Headteacher:	Mrs L Davison
Chair of Governors:	Dr S Carr
Date of Inspection:	14 June 2022
Inspectors:	Mr K Toms Mrs J Ward Mrs C Marrin (shadow)

HOLY FAMILY CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

MISSION STATEMENT



At Holy Family we grow, learn and succeed in the footsteps of Jesus.

OUR SCHOOL VALUES



SCHOOL: Holy Family Catholic Primary School, Sale

DATE OF LAST INSPECTION: 10th November 2015

JUDGEMENT FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTION: Good

AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT FROM PREVIOUS INSPECTION

- Improve the evaluation and moderation of Religious Education by extending the range of monitoring activities to include more formal observation of lessons.
- Ensure that Religious Education lessons are more evenly spread throughout the week.

PROGRESS MADE WITH AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT FROM THE PREVIOUS INSPECTION

All areas for development since the last inspection have been met, resulting in a far more systematic approach to evaluation and moderation by senior leaders and governors.

A variety of informal observations has been combined with focused formal learning walks and systematic lesson observations. These result in extremely clear objectives for future development and more targeted support for all children.

All timetables now reflect diocesan guidelines to spread the teaching of Religious Education throughout the week, allowing themes to be developed more fully.

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS: how effective is the school in providing Catholic Education.

1

This is an outstanding Catholic school

The above judgement on overall effectiveness is based on all the available evidence following the evaluation of:

CATHOLIC LIFE

1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

1

Summary of key findings:

- Holy Family Catholic Primary School is outstanding as the Mission Statement is truly lived out though the whole community. It has been thoroughly reviewed and developed in line with a very effective School Values Statement that is readily understood and embraced by all staff, pupils, parents and governors. This allows everyone to translate this into the daily life of the school. 'I like the values because instead of lots of rules we have four which are important ingredients to help make me a better person.'
- It truly has a family-oriented ethos that places the wellbeing of all pupils, staff, governors, and parents at the heart of all they do. An immediate warmth and welcome are palpable as you enter the school. It is reflected in all you meet and the quality of the displays around the school
- The wellbeing of all is a key feature of the school and this has developed further during the period of the pandemic when staff and families found great support from each other
- Provision for Religious Education is outstanding. Very effective systems of monitoring and evaluation have been developed further with more depth and rigour
- All staff and governors work collaboratively, ensuring the high status of Religious Education is not only maintained but enhanced at every opportunity
- Pupil Voice is paramount to the school and the children feel safe and valued. They are proud of their school and know that they play a key role in the life of the school
- Parents are overwhelmingly proud of their school. 'I feel deeply grateful that my children are in this school where they reinforce the values of home and help them to grow in faith, love, and care for themselves and those around them.'

What the school needs to do to improve further

- Further develop opportunities for the Holy Family Community to meet in prayer alongside the regular class Masses
- Use the new Curriculum Directory and Prayer and Liturgy Guidelines to strengthen good practice through the school
- Extend opportunities for pupils to lead Prayer, Liturgy and Reflections.

Information about the Inspection

The Inspection of Holy Family Catholic Primary School was carried out under the requirements of the Education Act 2005, and in accordance with the Shrewsbury Diocesan Framework and Schedule for Denominational Inspections approved by the Bishop of Shrewsbury. The inspection reviews and evaluates how effective the school is in providing Catholic education. This process begins with the school's own self-evaluation and the inspection schedule follows the criteria set by the National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisers (NBRIA 2017).

The inspector reviewed in detail the following aspects:

- The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school
- The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school
- How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education
- The quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education
- How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship
- The quality of Collective Worship provided by the school
- How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education, Collective Worship and the Catholic Life of the school

The inspection was carried out by two inspectors over one day:

- Two Collective Acts of Worship were observed: one in Key Stage One and a further one in Key Stage Two
- Six lessons were observed
- Discussions were held with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, Governors, Parish Priest, members of staff and various pupil groups
- All documents and related policies were scrutinised alongside Pupil workbooks, and Together We Pray books from each class
- Wider community involvement and classroom displays, along with the general school environment both inside and out, were taken into account also.

Information about this school

- The school is a one form entry school serving the parish of Holy Family, Sale and closely linked and served from the parish of St. Joseph's, Sale
- 220 pupils are on roll with the majority, 167, baptised Catholic. 26 children have no stated religious affiliation
- 63 children are from other minority ethnic backgrounds
- There are 9 full-time equivalent teachers, 7 full-time and 4 part-time, 6 have the CCRS or equivalent qualification
- 38 pupils are on the SEND register.

Full report – inspection judgments

CATHOLIC LIFE

The Catholic Life of the school is outstanding

1

The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school	1
The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision of the Catholic Life of the school	1

- An extensive review of the Mission Statement alongside the development of the School Values and Code of Conduct places the Pupil Voice at the heart of all they do. It ensures that all children fully understand and articulate how they benefit and are able to participate in the Catholic Life of the School
- This is seen significantly through the Communication Team, the Gift Team, Mini Vinnies, the V.I.P. club, Mental Health Champions and the recently formed Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassadors
- All of these ensure that pupils feel valued and supported and that they are active contributors to the Catholic Life of the Holy Family community
- The pupils feel safe and secure and know clearly how to seek help when required. The recently formed Diana Award Anti-Bullying Ambassadors is already having an impact on the mental health and well-being of pupils. They have already developed such things as “kindness tokens” and bench areas where they can meet and support each other
- Behaviour around the school is exemplary and all pupils display a high respect for each other. They are very aware of the needs of others, particularly vulnerable members of the community
- Pastoral Care is central to the school’s ethos, and this has been particularly so during the recent pandemic. All staff, pupils and parents say how important this has been and a real sign of how ‘Family’ is rightly at the heart of this community
- Staff also spoke of how their own well-being has been effectively supported and how the whole community of staff and parents have worked closely together during these difficult times
- The pupils are fully aware of how much they respect and understand what it is to be part of this unique community at Holy Family. They understand its traditions and value being members of it
- The liturgical seasons and Diocesan yearly themes are integral to the Catholic Life of the School. The pupils know what these seasons mean and engage with enthusiasm in celebrating them
- They have embraced the Pope’s encyclical “Laudato Si” and are actively working to reflect this care for the environment in their daily lives
- Annual retreats take place at the Marist
- Catholic Social Teaching underpins the vision all leaders have for the school, and it very effectively feeds into the Mission Statement and the related Values Statement

- A Relationships and Sex Education Policy and programme have been successfully introduced following Diocesan Guidelines. This sits alongside the Personal Health and Social Education programme. Mental Health and Well Being has prominent importance in the school
- Identifying pupils needing extra help and support has been made a priority and allows the school to identify and support all those in need more accurately
- All governors and senior leaders work in a true partnership, and this ensures that all children benefit from the Catholic Life of the School
- They have a clear vision of their role and are fully involved in the monitoring and evaluation of the school. They challenge the school and have their own vision and clear commitment to Continuing Professional Development
- All staff and governors value the opportunities to develop their own skills and knowledge and make good use of courses offered by the Diocese
- All staff feel very well supported and say how much they benefit from the collaborative learning promoted in school
- Prayer is central to all staff gatherings and all staff confidently lead and act as role models in class liturgies
- The Parish Priest holds regular masses for the Holy Family community and is keen to support further initiatives at the school
- A breakfast club exists at the school and a range of extra curricular activities engage many children before and after school
- Pastoral Care and professional development are a strength of the school which is at the heart of this community.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religious Education is outstanding

1

How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education	1
The quality of teaching, learning and assessment in Religious Education	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education	1

- All pupils from their various starting points make good, and sometimes outstanding, progress
- All observed lessons reflected the secure knowledge the pupils acquired in their Religious Education lessons and the ability they have to articulate this with appropriate religious literacy
- Pupils enjoy their Religious Education lessons and the variety of teaching and learning activities which increases their knowledge of Jesus and informs their daily lives
- There is a clear consistency of approach throughout the school, with the Mission Statement and Values Statement always at the centre of teaching and learning opportunities
- This consistency of approach has a clear impact on how pupils can be focused on the outcomes of learning and how the Gospel message impacts their lives
- Behaviour in lessons is almost always exemplary and pupils remain on task throughout lessons
- The Way, The Truth and The Life is the core resource for teaching Religious Education. During the inspection, the theme of belonging to the family of God, Christian Families and Discipleship were very effectively explored. Even the youngest children were exploring the inclusivity of God's Love
- Teachers show good Religious Education knowledge and are ably supported by teaching assistants; good questioning techniques challenge pupils' understanding, allowing all children to make good and sometimes outstanding progress
- A scrutiny of pupils' workbooks, the Together We Pray books and the quality of displays around the school all reflect the very high status given to provision for Religious Education and the pride taken in presenting it
- Marking is consistent with the school's policy and there are good examples of interactive marking
- Good use is made of checking in and checking out methods to assess learning. Objectives are shared and pupil self-evaluation effectively used
- Extra support has been channeled into supporting children with special educational needs and this allows them to engage with Religious Education lesson appropriate to their needs and also able to make good progress
- Extensive work has been undertaken to ensure that monitoring and evaluation continues to drive the school's continuous improvement in Religious Education

- A well respected and visionary Headteacher, Senior Leaders and strong and effective governors work in true partnership to provide outstanding provision for Religious Education
- The governors meet the requirements of The Bishops' Conference and all Diocesan directives.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP

Collective Worship is outstanding

1

How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship	1
The quality of provision for Collective Worship	1
How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Collective Worship	1

- Pupils enjoy the opportunity to come together in prayer and liturgy. They see it as an integral part of the life of the school. They also recognise the importance of celebrating achievements together and how this is directly linked to their Mission Statement and Values permeating the life of the school
- Pupils are thoroughly engaged in these opportunities to pray together and approach them with prayerful reverence and a respect for all
- The pupils are actively involved in planning and leading prayer and liturgy, both in their own classes and with other classes. This is particularly so with older children leading prayer with younger children
- The Gift team play a very active role in school life and speak confidently and enthusiastically about the lead they take. Together with the Mini Vinnies and the Mental Health Champions) they are able to articulate how important their role is in celebrating all they do in Prayerful opportunities
- Each class develops their own books which include the way they plan and celebrate together. The high standard of these books reflects the status of the prayer life of the school community and how the liturgical year, diocesan themes, and opportunities to celebrate and pray together are planned for consistently through the school
- The establishment of regular school masses since the pandemic is enthusiastically welcomed in the Holy Family community and all are keen to extend these opportunities to pray together with the wider community, especially with parents
- Important links already exist in the Holy Family Community, especially with the S.V.P. and CAFOD. The pupils enjoy the opportunities they have to come together. The school choir sing for the elderly of the parish
- Display and resources through the school reflect the high status given to Religious Education and every class places a prayer focus in a prominent place in the classroom
- All teachers, senior leaders and governors are excellent role models in promoting the prayer life of the school. They are extremely enthusiastic about further opportunities to develop this in line with the new Curriculum Directory and guidance for Prayer and Liturgy
- Creativity and thought-provoking themes in Acts of Worship are encouraged through the school
- A formal prayer policy has been developed and every opportunity is given to pupils to write their own prayers
- Regular retreats to the Marist Centre are a feature of the school's approach in supporting pupils' spiritual development and extending opportunities to pray together
- Pupils respond well to the positivity of the Value Statements and how this ensures the Mission Statement becomes an integral part of all prayer, liturgy, and Celebration assemblies

- Liturgy is enriched with joyful singing and reflectiveness appropriately. All displays reflect the high status of Religious Education throughout the school with a very effective consistency observed in every classroom environment
- Prayer and Liturgy is truly at the heart of the Holy Family school community.