



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

REPORT ON THE S48 MONITORING INSPECTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

School:	Ladymount Catholic Primary School
Address:	Portal Road Pensby Wirral CH61 5YD
Tel No:	0151 648 4326
URN:	105084
Headteacher:	Miss N Turner
Chair of Governors:	Mr B Sharp
Date of Inspection:	11 July 2018
Inspector:	Mrs C Morgan

Ladymount Catholic Primary continues to be an outstanding school in all areas. The Mission Statement “...we welcome and value all involved in our school family and strive to share a living experience of our Catholic faith” is central to their work and is evident in all they do.

Outcomes for Pupils

At Ladymount Outcomes for Pupils are Outstanding.

Pupils show full engagement and commitment in the ways in which they contribute to both the school and to the wider community. They embrace the opportunities they are offered to support their own school and parish communities, other local and national charities as well as projects in other countries. Pupils have shown great commitment to not only support those who have become refugees, but have worked hard to understand and empathise with refugees and to carry out the social mission of the Church.

During the monitoring visit, it was evident that pupils value and respect each other as equals; they show great capacity for praise and forgiveness. Pupils stated that they: ‘Learn from Jesus’ and, ‘Think about others’ feelings’ as, ‘We can’t see inside them.’ They think their school is wonderful and special, where people help if you are upset because there is always a teacher or friend on whom to rely. A group of ‘Playground Friends’ help pupils to play, do small jobs and provide a friendly face for those who need it. Pupils at Ladymount show great enthusiasm for all they undertake and their behaviour is exemplary.

Pupils enjoy their Religious Education lessons and mention how they find Art and Drama an excellent way to develop their understanding of their Catholic faith. Pupils enjoy times when they learn about other religions and are respectful of those pupils from a different faith background. In activities such as residential visits there is always a spiritual element and pupils report that this is very important to them.

Attainment at the end of each Key Stage is high, with a high proportion of pupils attaining above the national average. Pupils, including those with particular needs, make very good progress given the relatively low starting point for many pupils. The excellent school tracking system ensures that pupils are well aware of their level of attainment and know what they have to do to improve. Pupils’ work is moderated within the school and within the local cluster of schools.

The older pupils are skilled at planning and leading outstanding Collective Worship, and this was evident in the Key Stage 2 Assembly on ‘Changes’ and in the class Collective Worship observed during the monitoring visit, where pupils were respectful and responsive. Their recent Pentecost Prayer Trail, modelled on Advent and Lenten reflections, was appreciated by all those privileged to take part.

Leaders, Governors and Managers

At Ladymount, Leaders, Governors and Managers are outstanding.

This Catholic Primary School is extremely well led by the dedicated Headteacher, who leads by example. She is very well supported by both the Deputy Head and the Religious Education subject leader, as well as by committed Governors and Staff. School leaders and Governors appreciate the support they receive from their Parish Priest, who visits often and works with them to improve the provision for the Catholic life of the school. Leaders and Governors also appreciate the commitment of parents and the ways in which they engage with the school. Parents are very appreciative of the school and comment positively on its ethos, how supportive staff are, how well children are taught about their faith and how pupils and staff live out the Gospel values.

New staff are given support in planning and delivering Religious Education and Collective Worship through modelling of outstanding lessons and Collective Worship by the Senior Leadership Team, and through attendance at Diocesan courses such as ‘Foundations in Faith’ and ‘Creative

Religious Education', which are much appreciated. At Ladymount, Leaders have had a clear focus on ensuring that the delivery of the Diocesan Religious Education scheme, 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' is high quality, relevant and creative. The drive for improvement is reflected in the clear vision for continued development identified in the Action plan. Governors monitor the progress and effectiveness of the Action Plan through reports to the Curriculum Committee, the Headteacher's Termly Reports and by Link Governor and other visits to the school. They take part in Learning Walks and Work Scrutiny. They have observed the positive impact of the school's commitment to delivering high quality, creative Religious Education in pupils' individual responses to their Religious Education lessons, in Collective Worship and in the vibrant Catholic life of the school.

Ladymount is part of a cluster of six Catholic Schools who are working together successfully to develop a clearer understanding of the levels of attainment in Religious Education and how progress in these can be measured effectively and efficiently. These schools conduct Learning Walks of each other's schools, moderate work and plan for development in all areas.

Provision for Pupils

The Provision for Pupils is outstanding.

Teaching observed during the Monitoring Visit was at least good, with some outstanding practice. Pupils were seen to be engaged in creative activities, well matched to their differing abilities and encouraging them to become independent learners. The pace of lessons was good, with a range of styles, excellent resources, high expectations and effective questioning being used to ensure pupils made good progress within the lesson.

The Religious Education curriculum, Collective Worship and Catholic Life of the School is enhanced by the provision of enrichment activities such as residential visits and retreats, half termly Celebrations and many projects responding to the particular needs of the school, such as Memory Days where the whole school community remembers pupils and staff who have died. The commitment to ensuring pupils extend and deepen their knowledge and understanding of their Catholic faith through high quality teaching and become skilled in planning, leading and evaluating Collective Worship is outstanding.

Through collaboration with other organisations such as the Cluster group and by commitment to the courses and advice provided through the Diocese, Ladymount ensures that the provision for their pupils continues to be outstanding. They apply the same diligence to the provision for Collective Worship and the Catholic Life of the School, constantly seeking ways in which to improve what they offer their pupils and the communities they serve.

Area for development

- **As already identified by Ladymount Catholic Primary School, the school should continue to seek ways in which it can further develop links/ways of working with the two parishes it serves.**