



DIOCESE OF
SHREWSBURY

SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

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

School: St Augustine's Catholic Primary School
Address: Henshall Avenue
Warrington
WA4 1PY

Tel No: 01925 633317

URN: 111309

Headteacher: Mrs A Towey

Chair of Governors: Mrs M Morgan

Date of Inspection: 2 July 2018

Inspectors: Mrs E Inman
Mrs M Bulmer



Mission Statement:

Are we following in Jesus' footsteps?
Are we listening to Jesus' call?
Remember, he was sent here to guide us
And the first steps must start with us all.

Jesus said, 'Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.'

John 8:12

FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll	14	17	24	15	28	23	13	20	154
Catholics on roll	8	7	13	6	16	15	5	14	84
Other Christian denomination	2	4	3	5	3	2	4	2	25
Other faith background	1	1	4	0	1	0	1	0	8
No stated religious affiliation	3	6	4	4	8	6	3	4	38
Number of learners from ethnic groups	5	6	12	6	8	9	5	6	57
Total on SEN Register		<5	8	<5	12	7	<5	<5	41
Total with Statements of SEN					<5			<5	<5
FSM		5	4	5	12	6	5	8	45

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	5
Index of multiple deprivation	IDACI score 0.31 (Warrington 0.15)			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
Blessed John Henry Newman	121
St Benedict's	20
St Stephen's	6
St Bridget's	2
St Alban's	2

With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred	
PUPILS TRANSFER	
Name of School	No of Pupils
CNCHS	19
Sir Thomas Boetler	4
Lymm HS	1

RE TEACHING TIME	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Total RE teaching time (Hours) -- per week	1	2	2	2	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	17

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	4
Part-time teachers	6
Total full-time equivalent	8
Support assistants	8
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	80%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	7.5
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	3
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	1

NAME OF SCHOOL	
Published admission number	30
Number of classes	8 including Nursery
Average class size KS1	20.5
Average class size KS2	21

FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year	Current financial year	Next financial year
RE	£154	£1,502	£800
English	£691	£1082	£800
Mathematics	£577	£73	£400
Science	£14	£75	£100

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	1
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The pupils of St Augustine’s Catholic Primary School value their school highly and are rightly proud of the many opportunities that the school offers them. They actively contribute to, and benefit from, a variety of roles and responsibilities such as: Play Leaders, House Captains and School Councillors. Through the enrichment activities offered, including Mini Vinnies, Multi-sports, Football, Guitar, as well as the outreach activities such as Walking Day when the community of Warrington gather to walk in witness to Christian faith, pupils experience and learn characteristics such as responsibility, commitment, tolerance, fairness and team work. Pupils are very aware of the need to extend attitudes of respect and love beyond the school gates. Through the ‘Covenant with the Poor’ initiative, each class takes responsibility for a fund raising event which supports both local and global charities such as St Joseph’s Family Centre in Warrington, the local Food Bank, Mission together and CAFOD. The Mini Vinnies group not only raises money for worthy causes, but also awareness of issues such as the need to recycle and the plight of others less fortunate than themselves. Pupils are regular visitors to a local Care Home where they spend time talking to the residents, a relationship which benefits everyone.

Pupils make excellent progress in their knowledge of, and response to, Catholic faith; they achieve well by the end of each Key Stage. The school is committed to improving outcomes for pupils and pupils’ work is assessed and progress tracked. The school is rightly aware of the need to refine and develop the process of assessment and tracking so that the data collected accurately reflects standards achieved in Religious Education, as well as identifying the next steps in learning. Learning at St Augustine’s is enhanced by a rich variety of teaching styles and activities. Pupils’ workbooks reflect this array of activities and are consistently beautifully presented and maintained. The work produced is rightly a source of pride to the pupils.

Behaviour is exemplary in class and around the school. The pupils said that good behaviour was one of the best things about their school. One pupil said, “There is no bullying here,” to which another added that Anti-Bullying Week activities ensured that they knew what to do should it happen. Another pupil said, “Teachers deal with any disrespect immediately.”

Staff and pupils at St Augustine’s are enthusiastic about their times of prayer together. Pupils are taking an increasing responsibility for planning, preparing and leading worship. They are attentive, reflective and prayerful; they enjoy their times of prayer together.

LEADERS AND MANAGERS	1
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St Augustine’s Catholic Primary School is led by a dedicated, talented and highly effective Headteacher who is passionate about ensuring the highest of standards for the pupils and for the staff. She is well supported by a proactive senior leadership team and by a Governing Body who know and love their school. The RE Lead is knowledgeable and committed to ongoing improvement, constantly seeking ways of improving provision and outcomes both in Religious Education and in the wider Catholic Life of the school. Leaders and managers are committed to nurturing and developing colleagues as well as pupils; aspiration is not only for pupils. Pupils’ aspirations are encouraged and it was refreshing to hear of a conversation between two older pupils, overheard by a governor. The pupils were discussing their assessment which was higher than expected for their age yet they said to each other that, whilst they were pleased that they were progressing, they needed to try even harder if they were to fulfil their dream of being vets.

Leaders and managers use rigorous monitoring information to plan improvements to teaching, learning and the wider Catholic life of the school, including prayer. They are currently seeking ways of ensuring that parents know how much they are appreciated and welcome in school.

Team work is evident across the school and teachers support and encourage one another, sharing best practice and knowledge as well as their individual skills and talents.

Governors are well informed, knowledgeable and loyal. They have been steadfast in good days and in bad and are a source of strength in the community.

PROVISION	1
<p>The provision of Catholic Education at St Augustine’s is outstanding in its depth, its quality and its diversity. Teaching is consistently good or better and the pupils appreciate their teachers for all that they do. One pupil said, “Teachers take their time with you. If you don’t understand, they stick with you until you do.” Teachers are clear about what they want their pupils to learn and understand and good use is made of ‘driver’ words, such as ‘retell’, ‘describe’, ‘make links’, ‘show understanding’, at the beginning of each lesson to ensure that pupils also comprehend what they must do to demonstrate progress. Lessons begin with a recap of prior learning to secure knowledge and understanding before moving on. The school recognises the need to ensure that teachers model answers to questions which embrace these next learning steps, supporting responses with scriptural references whenever possible and appropriate. For example, there were many references to Gospel Values yet fewer opportunities to define where these originate in scripture. The school ensures that at least 10% of curriculum time is dedicated to curriculum Religious Education and understands the need to ensure an even spread throughout the week and the time of day. Pupils are taught in classes of various sizes, some small, as the school is committed to maintaining academic year groups. Support staff are deployed effectively to enhance teaching and learning as well as the pastoral care of pupils. Pupils spoke highly of the opportunities they have to speak with a dedicated member of staff whenever they have a difficulty, whether that problem be in school or elsewhere.</p> <p>The Religious Education offered is lively, varied, interesting and relevant, built upon the scheme used in the Diocese of Shrewsbury, ‘The Way, the Truth and the Life.’ Creative approaches ensure that the pupils are invariably engaged and they are rightly proud of the work in their books and of the activities such as drama, music and art that they enjoy. The local cluster of Diocesan schools work together to share ideas and good practice. When discussing the breadth of the curriculum offered, pupils described it thus, ‘It’s not bread and butter here; it’s cake.’</p> <p>The school is active within the parish and, despite a fairly lengthy walk, staff take pupils to the church for Mass, which is much appreciated by parishioners. One parishioner wrote after Mass on Ash Wednesday, ‘I went to 9.30 Mass on Ash Wednesday and it was a real joy to see the children...’</p> <p>Quality collective worship is a high priority for this school and it forms a central role in every school celebration.</p>	

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS	1
<p>St Augustine’s is an outstanding Catholic Primary school which serves the community well. Jesus Christ is at the heart of everything that the school does and this is evident as soon as you walk through the door. Welcome, compassion, justice and integrity permeate the school’s activities and aspirations in the name of Jesus. There is a distinct atmosphere of inclusion, love, forgiveness and hope - Gospel values which are palpable in this school. All staff contribute to this ethos and pupils recognise the value of their teachers. The school lives out its mission to walk in the footsteps of Jesus.</p> <p>What the school could do to improve further</p> <p>Continue to develop and refine the assessment of Religious Education to ensure accuracy and accelerate progress.</p>	

Parents' Questionnaires
15 Parents returned questionnaires

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child enjoys school	8	7			
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	4	11			
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	11	4			
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	8	7			
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	8	7			
6	The school enables my children to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	7	8			
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	8	7			

Pupil Questionnaires (Year 2)

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	I like being at this school.	9	4	2
2	I learn new things in Religious Education lessons.	6	9	
3	I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.	13	1	1
4	I have to work hard.	14	1	
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	12	3	
6	My teacher listens to me.	9	6	
7	When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.	9	5	1
8	I get praise when I do my best.	8	6	1
9	Other children are kind and behave well	5	9	1
10	I am happy on the playground.	9	4	2
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	11	4	
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	11	2	2

Pupil Questionnaires (Year 6)

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	Do you like being at this school?	15	4	1
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	19	1	
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	12	8	
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	19	1	
5	Do you have to work hard?	20		
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	20		
7	Do other children behave well?	8	12	
8	Are teachers fair to you?	16	4	
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	17	3	
10	Are you given responsibility?	16	4	
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	19	1	