

Our Lady & All Saints Catholic Primary School

URN: 119694

Catholic Schools Inspectorate report on behalf of the Archbishop of Liverpool

22–22 January 2025

Summary of key findings

Overall effectiveness

The overall quality of Catholic education provided by the school

Catholic life and mission (p.3)

How faithfully the school responds to the call to live as a Catholic community at the service of the Church's educational mission

Religious education (p.5)

The quality of curriculum religious education

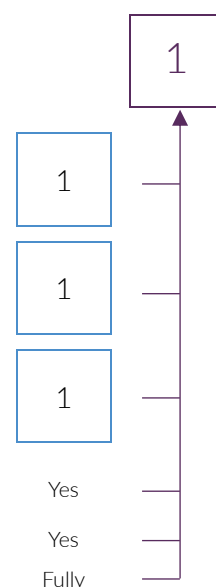
Collective worship (p.7)

The quality and range of liturgy and prayer provided by the school

The school is fully compliant with the general norms for religious education laid down by the Bishops' Conference

The school is fully compliant with any additional requirements of the diocesan bishop

The school has responded to the areas for improvement from the last inspection



Compliance statement

- The school is fully compliant in relation to the general norms for religious education laid down by the Bishops' Conference.
- The school is fully compliant with all requirements of the Archdiocese of Liverpool.
- The school has responded fully to the areas for improvement identified in the last inspection.

What the school does well

- Our Lady and All Saints is a loving, nurturing family that lives out its mission with joy.
- The headteacher, religious education lead and governors have a clarity of vision for their school and lead with love.
- Pupils' behaviour, attitude and pride in their school is exceptional.
- Pupils are well prepared for their next steps through a well-planned, coherent and creative curriculum.
- The beautiful school environment supports the prayerful formation of pupils and staff.

What the school needs to improve

- In line with other core subjects, support pupils' self-assessment skills to ensure they can fully articulate the progress they have made.
- Further enrich pupils' expertise in leading and evaluating all elements of prayer and liturgy, more frequently and with increased confidence.

Catholic life and mission

How faithfully the school responds to the call to live as a Catholic community at the service of the Church's educational mission.

Catholic life and mission key judgement grade

Pupil outcomes

The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic life and mission of the school

Provision

The quality of provision for the Catholic life and mission of the school

Leadership

How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for the Catholic life and mission of the school



Pupils at Our Lady and All Saints know they are loved and fully embrace the Catholic identity of the school. They are active in their mission. Pupils support local charities to ensure they are following in Jesus' footsteps. They are proud of their work with Douglas Valley Outreach and the parish St Vincent De Paul group through Mini Vinnies. Pupils articulate clearly that they are special, unique and loved by God. This leads to them feeling happy, safe and secure. Their mission, 'As a family in faith, we rejoice, love and grow,' is known, lived and embraced by the pupils and fully endorsed by governors, staff and parents. Pupils are provided with varied opportunities to flourish and develop as Christians who want to make a difference. They gladly embrace their responsibility to care for our common home and are immensely proud of the weekly Wednesday markets during Lent which support the work of Nugent Care. Pupils strive to make the world a better place and respond to those in need. Their Mini Vinnies group has attracted support during break times, and this has ensured that playtimes are joyful. Respect is given and received, and pupils have developed a clear understanding of their dignity and that of others. This leads to exemplary behaviour.

The mission statement is clear and inspiring. A highlight for pupils and staff is the annual mission day. They take each element of their mission; family, faith, rejoice, love and growth and help the pupils and adults to consider how they live this out to develop their own spirituality. Staff can identify what makes their school special. Christ is truly present, and everyone lives out their mission gladly. Staff articulate this when they say, 'We are a family, and we help one another'. It is a thriving Catholic community with a strong culture of welcome. Staff are willing role models, who nurture and support all with sensitivity, particularly the vulnerable and those with special needs and disabilities. Pastoral care systems are effective. The school's welcoming environment

effectively promotes the teachings of the Church and inspires its pupils to do the same. Every child in the school contributed to the mission statement mural in the hall and can be proud of their contribution. One parent commented, 'Our Lady and All Saints is a very special place, we are blessed to be part of the caring Catholic community'. Their carefully planned relationships, sex and health education curriculum has been embraced with care and enthusiasm to ensure pupils develop a holistic and compassionate vision of the human person.

Leadership is a clear strength of the school and a source of inspiration for the whole community. Christ is at the heart of this school and governors and leaders see this as their core responsibility and promote parish links. The headteacher is an authentic and attentive witness who leads by example and receives the utmost respect and appreciation from parents and carers. As a result, parents work in partnership with the school and fully endorse its mission. The experienced religious education lead works closely with the archdiocese and regularly participates in its programme for continued professional development. Leaders are visible witnesses who embody the vision of the Church by protecting and serving those in greatest need. They embody an authentic commitment to Catholic social teaching, and this is beautifully exemplified in the school environment. Staff feel valued and supported and appreciate all that is done for their wellbeing. The taught curriculum is coherent, creative and compelling and takes the time to recognise and celebrate the achievements of all. Pupils are instrumental in the evaluation of the curriculum. Staff, including new staff, are supported well and training is frequent and effective.

Religious education

The quality of curriculum religious education

Religious education key judgement grade

Pupil outcomes

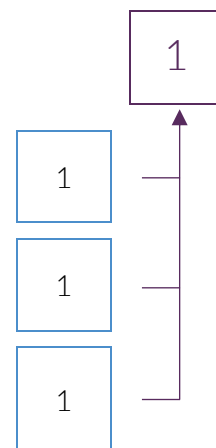
How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in religious education

Provision

The quality of teaching, learning, and assessment in religious education

Leadership

How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for religious education



Pupils are developing excellent knowledge, understanding and skills in religious education. They are fully engaged in their learning and embrace lesson content with enthusiasm and enjoyment. Behaviour in lessons is exemplary, leading to pupils making consistently good progress over time. Support for disadvantaged and those with special educational needs is woven seamlessly into every classroom. The effectiveness of the curriculum is evident in the religiously literate responses pupils make and in the written work they produce. Pupils demonstrate high levels of independence and concentration. Working walls support learning by mapping out units of work over time and providing scaffolds for further challenge. Pupils participate actively, are keen to develop as competent learners and to recognise how religious education is shaping their lives. One pupil stated, 'I enjoy religious education lessons because it helps you to be a better person.' Work produced is of a consistently high quality and demonstrates creativity and opportunity for individuality. As a result of this, pupils enjoy learning, know how well they are doing and are genuinely proud of the work they have produced. Pupils progress well over time and achieve at least in line with attainment in other core subjects.

Teachers confidently deliver lessons and have high expectations and a deep commitment for religious education. Their pedagogical knowledge, coupled with strong subject knowledge leads to lessons being crafted and enhanced to include reviews of prior learning, precise teaching, and skilful questioning. High quality resources, many of which are bespoke to the school are used effectively and widely to support the delivery of the *Religious Education Directory* and the continued delivery of *Come and See*. Early Years staff plan a wealth of practical tasks which develop learning and allow children from an early age to reveal what they have learned. All staff, including leaders, can demonstrate how well they know the pupils. The curriculum is carefully planned and sequenced. New learning is systematically introduced and structured to build on

what the pupils already know. Planning is systematic, and pupils' responses are carefully handled to both affirm and deepen understanding. Teachers provide pupils with relevant and specific feedback both verbally and in their books. There are opportunities for purposeful reflection and further challenge in lessons. Teachers at Our Lady and All Saints have a profound understanding of the impact religious education has on pupils growing spiritually and morally. All staff eagerly embrace this vocation by helping pupils find ways to make links in their own lives. They remind them of previous occasions when they have put their faith in action and help them to grow in discernment.

Leaders and governors ensure that religious education is a faithful expression of the Bishops' Conference national and archdiocesan requirements. It has full parity with other core subjects. This is evident in timetabling, staffing and resourcing. Leaders and governors are committed to supporting professional development opportunities for all staff. This is implemented both formally and informally. Staff appreciate the approachable nature of leaders and feel fully supported. The religious education leader gives her services to the archdiocesan core cluster group and fully contributes and provides expertise to an expanding local cluster group. Excellent links are forged with other external agencies. A wide range of enrichment opportunities are planned and promoted via the weekly school newsletter and exemplifies the wider curriculum offer. The governing body holds itself to account and formulates its own development plan to ensure that religious education is led with rigour and authenticity. The religious education governor is a regular visitor to school and is fully involved in the cycle of monitoring and evaluation. Leaders and governors' self-evaluation of religious education is succinct, strategic and well informed, leading to outcomes that are consistently strong.

Collective worship

The quality and range of liturgy and prayer provided by the school

Collective worship key judgement grade

Pupil outcomes

How well pupils participate in and respond to the school's collective worship

1

Provision

The quality of collective worship provided by the school

1

Leadership

How well leaders and governors promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for collective worship

1

1

Prayer and liturgy is truly central to daily life at Our Lady and All Saints. The prayer opportunities planned are engaging, inclusive and lead the pupils to respond wholeheartedly and reverently. As the whole school community gather, there is a sense of stillness and peace which demonstrates a deep commitment to prayer which allows pupils of all ages to grow in faith and reflect upon how they can live out Jesus' mission. Pupils are invited to listen to carefully selected passages of scripture, to reflect upon them and respond in a variety of ways including traditional prayers which are taught over time. The school's mission statement is a regular source of inspiration for prayer. This leads to pupils in Upper Key Stage Two being able to regularly draw upon a wealth of traditional and modern prayers when creating and leading worship. There is a well-established rhythm and pattern of prayer and worship that the school community anticipates and appreciates. Pupils enthusiastically participate, they pray reverently and sing joyfully. Scripture is chosen well and proclaimed with passion. Pupils articulate the ways in which experiences of prayer shape them as Christians. Engagement in prayer and liturgy observed during the inspection demonstrated careful thought, active listening, prayerful silence and respect for others.

The importance of well-planned prayer and liturgy is clear across a range of evidence sources. Daily prayer is reverent and respectful and naturally embedded into the rhythm of school life. These prayer experiences reflect the liturgical year. Scripture passages, art and visual images are thoughtfully selected to ensure that all involved can actively participate and grow in faith. The school offers a range of liturgies throughout the year including remembrance assembly, a whole school Christmas celebration in church and the distribution of ashes during Lent. There are also many opportunities throughout the year to celebrate Mass as one class attends the parish Mass each Thursday on rotation. The headteacher, senior leaders and teachers are inspiring role

models of exemplary practice and expertly support the development of pupil led prayer and reflection. Prayer spaces around the school are conducive to creative and imaginative use. Focus for worship tables in classrooms are owned by the pupils and cherished. Families are welcomed regularly to join in the prayer life of the school, and this is greatly appreciated by the whole school community.

The school's policy on prayer and liturgy is well formulated, reviewed and fit for purpose. It is used by all staff and supports a consistency of delivery across the school. Leaders including governors have developed a clear understanding of the different levels of participation they wish to instil in their pupils. They implement a coherent strategy over time to build on strengths and competencies. Key times in the liturgical year are mapped out carefully to include visits to the parish and events in the school building such as *Stay and Pray*. Holy days of obligation and other significant feast days are offered to the whole school community and attendance at Mass is encouraged with enthusiasm. This ensures maximum participation. The continuing professional development of all staff takes place frequently and is of a consistently high quality. They are quick to implement new guidance from the archdiocese. High quality, modern resources are chosen with care, and provision is prioritised when setting budgets. The skill and attention given to lighting, music and creative arrangement enhances the experiences for all who gather for prayer. Leaders and governors at Our Lady and All Saints are highly reflective and ensure that self-evaluation of prayer and liturgy includes all stakeholders.

Information about the school

Full name of school	Our Lady & All Saints Catholic Primary School
School unique reference number (URN)	119694
School DfE Number (LAESTAB)	8883831
Full postal address of the school	Our Lady & All Saints Catholic Primary School, Brandreth Drive, Parbold, Wigan, WN8 7HD
School phone number	001257462466
Headteacher	Shaun Kearon
Chair of governors	Sue McCluskey
School Website	www.ourladyallsaints.lancs.sch.uk
Trusteeship	Diocesan
Multi-academy trust or company (if applicable)	N/A
Phase	Primary
Type of school	Voluntary Aided School
Admissions policy	Non-selective
Age-range of pupils	2-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Date of last denominational inspection	24 th April 2018
Previous denominational inspection grade	1

The inspection team

Julia Ashton
Mark Edwards

Lead
Team

Key to grade judgements

Grade	England	Wales
1	Outstanding	Excellent
2	Good	Good
3	Requires improvement	Adequate and requires improvement
4	Inadequate	Unsatisfactory and in need of urgent improvement