



DIOCESE OF **Arundel and Brighton**

DENOMINATIONAL (S48) INSPECTION REPORT

Holy Family Catholic Primary School

Address: Ongar Hill, Addlestone, Surrey, KT15 1BP

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School Unique Reference Number: 125210

Headteacher: Mr Steve Tindall

Chair of Governors: Mrs Suzanne Wright

Lead Inspector: Mrs Catherine Walker

Associate Inspector: Mrs Frances Novis

Inspection date: 8 March 2019

Previous Inspection: 1

Overall Effectiveness

This inspection: 1

Catholic Life: 1

Collective Worship: 1

Religious Education: 1

SUMMARY OF KEY FINDINGS FOR PARENTS AND PUPILS

Holy Family is an outstanding Catholic school because:

▪ Strong leadership at all levels	▪ The strong Catholic Ethos
▪ High quality teaching and learning	▪ Faith development of the pupils

FULL REPORT

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Holy Family is a smaller than average-sized primary school with one form of entry serving the parish of The Holy Family, Addlestone. The proportion of pupils who come from minority ethnic backgrounds is higher than average although the proportion who speak English as an additional language is relatively small. The proportions of disabled pupils and of those who have special educational needs, or an Education Health and Care Plan are below the national average. The proportion of children eligible for the pupil premium is below average. On leaving Holy Family, the majority of pupils attend Salesian Secondary School.

In September 2016 the school converted to an academy within the Xavier Catholic Education Trust. Holy Family works very closely with 10 partner schools within the trust (8 primary schools and 2 secondary schools) across the Woking and Weybridge Deaneries. The school received a Section 8 Ofsted inspection in November 2018 which recommended a subsequent Section 5 inspection within two years.

The weekly proportion of curriculum time given to Religious Education is 10.2% in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.

WHAT DOES THE SCHOOL NEED TO DO TO IMPROVE FURTHER

- Share the excellent practice clearly evident across the school.
- Continue to work collaboratively with the existing partner schools already within the Xavier Trust and beyond.
- Embed assessment in line with the new interim framework.

CATHOLIC LIFE

THE QUALITY OF THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

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

- All members of the Holy Family school community are at the heart of shaping the school's mission and ethos. Pupils have a deep understanding of how to live out the mission of the school. This is evidenced in the school mission statement, the school prayer and permeates throughout all aspects of school life. There is a tangible feel of how the Catholic ethos impacts on the daily lives of each and every person belonging to this special community.
- Opportunities for pupils to serve their community are created through various leadership responsibilities across the school. These include: Prefects, Liturgy Leaders, House Captains, School Council, Friendship Squad, Eco Committee and Learning Partners. Pupils are incredibly proud to be part of such a thriving Catholic community and engage fully and enthusiastically in the Catholic life of the school. Attendance data is very high, and punctuality is excellent, demonstrating pupils' enjoyment and excellent attitudes to learning. Pupils have an active voice in the school's evaluation process.
- Friendships are very strong. Pupils spoke to the inspection team and reported feeling safe, secure and very happy. Incidents of bullying are rare / were not evident. There are many opportunities for pupils from every age group to work, pray, play and celebrate together.
- Parents are fully supportive and are active partners in the daily life of the school. Parental engagement is very strong. This was evidenced in the high number of parent questionnaires shared with the inspection team. Parents are grateful and justly proud of the excellent education their children receive at Holy Family. One parent commented, "Holy Family is a fabulous school and I feel privileged to have my child educated here." This was echoed by another questionnaire response that stated, "This was the school where I wanted my child to thrive in the love of Christ."

- Pupils engage well in all aspects of the Catholic life of the school. Pupils have a high level of respect and respond well to the opportunities provided. This was evident in the assembly witnessed by Inspectors where learners actively led a reflection based on the Stations of the Cross. They were provided with time to think and reflect on the scripture reading. Behaviour was exemplary, showing respect and reverence throughout. Pupils at Holy Family are blessed to receive spiritual and academic growth. They are nurtured to achieve the very best outcomes and reach their full potential.

The quality of provision of the Catholic Life of the school is outstanding.

- Holy Family is a warm and welcoming school from the moment of first contact and this is sustained through the strong sense of purpose that pervades the Catholic life of the school. The Mission Statement is known and valued by all. Excellent relationships exist throughout the school and staff are outstanding role models. Pastoral support is one of the many strengths of the school. Pupils’ understanding of inclusion and difference are reinforced through the partnerships promoted with organisations like Enable Me, I-Can, Meath and Grass Roots. The school’s vision is understood and clearly articulated to all stakeholders.
- High expectations are clearly evident throughout the school. Positive behaviour is consistently reinforced by all staff through the example shown and the use of rewards. One pupil summarised this by stating, “There is such positivity at this school – it just spills out and touches everyone.” Learners were asked to be Ambassadors of Christ in the way they shared the light of Jesus. This was celebrated through the Holy Family Flame initiative where pupils from each year group were given a monthly award and certificate.
- Clear levels of focused support are provided for all groups of pupils and there is an explicit and concrete commitment to the most vulnerable and needy in both policy and practice. With great humility, the school and parish community have set up an initiative called Helping Hands to sensitively support families in times of need, both practically and emotionally.

How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for the Catholic Life of the school is outstanding.

- The excellent leadership and management of the school are reflected in the very strong Catholic ethos. Leaders at all levels set very clear direction. The headteacher is a highly effective leader who ensures that every member of the school community is valued as a unique individual and that their gifts are recognised, thus creating a real sense of teamwork. Leaders are energised by the task and are a source of inspiration for the whole community. One parent commented that it was “a real privilege to have their child at a school led by such an inspirational headteacher.”

- Governors are very ambitious and committed to the school. They value the support provided by the Xavier Trust. This has included facilitating training on governance in Catholic schools. Governors are fully involved in a regular strategic dialogue about progress and school development. Governors are passionate about the school's mission, are actively involved in its evaluation and are ready to challenge, as well as support, where necessary. They are active participants in shaping the vision, ethos and Catholic life that exists at Holy Family.
- The impact of the work of the Xavier Trust is clearly evident in the pupil outcomes and the high expectations observed throughout the school. Collaboration with the wider Catholic family of schools is valued and various opportunities have been created by the Xavier Trust. These have included, Xavier working groups, St George's RE sessions, Salesian workshops, and peer to peer mentoring. Opportunities to share best practice are welcomed and encouraged.
- Leaders promote excellent opportunities for staff to access high quality continuing professional development both within the Diocese and through the Xavier Trust. The development and sustenance of an authentic Catholic ethos is viewed as a core leadership responsibility. The continual strive for excellence from leaders at all levels ensures the outstanding provision for Catholic life.

COLLECTIVE WORSHIP / PRAYER AND PRAYER LIFE

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

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How well pupils respond to and participate in the school's Collective Worship and Prayer Life is outstanding.

- Provision for Collective Worship is a key feature of Holy Family and pervades all aspects of school life. Pupils at Holy Family are involved in preparing high quality prayer focuses and liturgies. Liturgy leaders take ownership of class prayer and worship through their allocated roles and ensuring the prayer areas are relevant and of high quality.
- All classes have prayer corners, which enhance the delivery of Collective Worship. Prayer corners reflect the liturgical calendar through the use of relevant colours and give opportunities for spontaneous prayer for the learners.

- Collective Worship has a clear purpose, message and direction. The learning environment indicates that pupils are encouraged to express their spirituality through prayer.
- Older pupils support younger pupils with their participation and engagement in Mass. They are great ambassadors for the delivery of class liturgy. Pupils throughout the school articulate themselves with confidence and reverence. An inclusive provision allows all pupils to reflect on their experiences and relate scripture readings to their own lives.
- Spirituality and the development of pupils' faith is encouraged through the use of class prayer boxes and prayer books. Prayer opportunities are planned in a manner that warmly welcomes parents to celebrate and join pupils.

The quality of provision for Collective Worship and Prayer Life is outstanding.

- Collective Worship is fully embedded. Holy Family provides the whole school community with frequent and varied opportunities to participate in the prayer life of the school. These include class Masses, spontaneous prayer, whole school assemblies and community Masses. The school benefits from a dedicated area called The Space. This facilitates distinctive time for quiet contemplation, meditation and reflection throughout the liturgical year.
- A strong partnership exists between the school and parish and is evident in the sacramental preparation for Holy Communion. This culminates in a special school Mass and celebration for the pupils.
- The rich diversity and multi-cultural heritage that exists at Holy Family is embraced and celebrated. Pupils take the initiative in leading the community life of prayer. They are creative and resourceful in their planning of liturgy and they want it to be the best it can be. This was evident in both the assembly and the dialogue the inspection team had with liturgy leaders. Almost all pupils have an excellent understanding of the church's liturgical year and are able to prepare Collective Worship, which reflects this understanding.
- The Space (an interactive learning environment) is also used to enhance pupils' faith development and spirituality by enlivening all the senses. This was clearly demonstrated during an outstanding lesson.
- Pupils regularly attend Mass at the adjacent church and a high percentage are practising Catholics. Pupils have an in-depth understanding of prayer, liturgy and worship.

How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Collective Worship and Prayer Life is outstanding.

- Provision is carefully monitored by the subject leader. Collective Worship is central to the life of the school and forms the heart of every school celebration. Experiences of Collective Worship are of such high quality that they are universally cherished by every member of the community, including pupils, parents and staff. Staff provide excellent role models and are active participants in parish life. Staff and pupils pray together regularly, and prayer is integral to all school gatherings. All staff have a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the purpose of Collective Worship and the wide variety of forms it can take.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

THE QUALITY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education is outstanding

- Behaviour for learning is outstanding and lessons proceed without any interruptions. Pupils develop and apply a wide range of religious skills to great effect, including the ability to interpret sources and symbols. Pupils are able to ask deeper questions, to understand nuance and subtlety, to reflect and evaluate, the ability to engage with religious ideas and integrate them into their lives.
- Pupils eagerly articulate their enjoyment of Religious Education confidently with a clear appreciation of all the opportunities they are given. Pupils' work indicates imagination, originality and independence. Teachers consistently enable pupils to reflect and evaluate their work. Pupils have an understanding of what they need to do to improve and are given the opportunity to respond.

The quality of teaching and assessment in Religious Education is outstanding

- Teaching demonstrates high expectations and exciting learning opportunities for pupils. The conversion of the old IT suite into a learning space provides the freedom to promote creativity in order to engage all pupils and provides a unique learning experience. Teaching is strong and many examples of outstanding practice were seen by inspectors.

- Learning objectives are prominent, appropriately shared and regularly referred to throughout lessons. All pupils were actively engaged in their learning and demonstrated great independence. Pupils were keen to share their learning and spoke enthusiastically about their love of the subject.
- Support staff are deployed effectively and make a valued contribution to pupils' learning.
- Skilful questioning is used to extend pupils' thinking and challenge understanding. Teachers set clear, challenging yet achievable goals for all pupils and provide supportive, developmental feedback in order to achieve success.
- Teaching is well planned, and learning is skills based. Lessons are inclusive and pupils respond very positively and display excellent religious knowledge. Their religious literacy is a strength and pupils easily make connections with how they live out their faith. Pupils learn exceptionally well and as a result, acquire knowledge quickly and in-depth and so develop their understanding rapidly.
- Opportunities in the curriculum are given so pupils learn about other faiths in order to widen their understanding of other beliefs.
- Assessment procedures ensure all pupils are monitored and tracked throughout the school. The school has adopted the new diocesan assessment framework, although this is still at an early stage. The school would now benefit from continuing to embed assessment in line with the new interim framework.

How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education is outstanding.

- The subject leader has a high level of confidence and expertise, both in terms of her specialist knowledge and her understanding of effective learning in Religious Education. She is an inspirational leader and inspires confidence in her colleagues to deliver excellent learning opportunities in the classroom. Working in partnership with the headteacher, the Religious Education leadership team, are tenacious in their drive to strive for excellence.
- The headteacher offers humble and all-encompassing support which embraces the whole community. He is energised by his vocation and is a source of inspiration for all stakeholders.
- Regular monitoring ensures Religious Education receives the highest priority within the strategic development of the school. Governors are passionate about the schools' mission and are actively involved in the strategic direction of the school.

Summary of Inspection Judgements

How effective the school is in providing Catholic Education.

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Catholic Life

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The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school.

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The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school

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How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for the Catholic Life of the school.

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Collective Worship and Prayer Life

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How well pupils respond to and participate in the schools' Collective Worship and Prayer Life.

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The quality of provision for Collective Worship and Prayer Life.

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How well leaders and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Collective Worship and Prayer Life.

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Religious Education

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How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education.

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The quality of teaching and assessment in Religious Education

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How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education

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