



22nd October 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Catholic Schools Inspection October 2026

Please find enclosed out most recent Catholic Schools Inspection. We are proud to share that the Academy has been rated as 'Good' in all of the three key areas: Catholic Life and Mission, Religious Education and Collective Worship. Within these areas, the Leadership of the Catholic Life and Mission of the school was awarded 'outstanding' with reference to it as a **'significant strength'**. These 'Good' ratings demonstrate our commitment to excellence and the hard work of our staff and pupils; it shows a clear trajectory of improvement since the last inspection and is a reflection of the determination of the staff body to ensure the very best Catholic education for all of our young people.

We are really pleased to see the inspection team recognised that pupils **'confidently articulate how 'living life to the full' shapes school life'** and that **'they explain how this mission influences their attitudes, relationships and appreciation of their own dignity and worth'**. Inspectors identified that there is a **'strong sense of community'** and that **'students' moral development is a strength'**.

When focusing on the visibility of the Catholic character of the school, inspectors state that the **'school environment is a rich expression of its Catholic identity and mission'**, referencing that the prayer spaces ensure that this **'identity is lived and experienced'**. Inspectors identified that leaderships ensured that the **'flourishing of others remains at the heart of school life, inspiring staff and students to play an active role in living out the mission.'** Inspectors stated that **'leaders know the school exceptionally well and evaluate provision with honesty and rigour'**.

Within Religious Education, inspectors recognised that students **'make good progress from their starting points and develop secure knowledge and understanding over time'**. At key stage 3 it states that **'students recall prior learning effectively, make meaningful connections between topics and are building understanding over time'**, and **'student workbooks demonstrate good engagement and productive learning'**. It is clear that the school has made significant progress in Religious Education since the last inspection and the inspectors refer to the leadership of Religious Education as being **'effective'** and that it has **'secured continued improvement since the last inspection'** as demonstrated by the improved grading awarded.

Inspectors recognised that students **'participate respectfully and willingly in the prayer and liturgical life of the school'**. The report states that **'students recognise how faith shapes their attitudes, decisions and relationships'** and **'prayer and liturgy are central to the life of the school'**. The development of prayer within school has been enhanced by **'effective professional development and faith formation'** which has **'strengthened staff confidence and expertise'**. The use of prayer and sacred spaces by pupils has **'strengthened their sense of belonging to both the school and the parish community'**. There was specific reference to the school choir, which play **'an important role in the shared mission of the school'**.



We welcome the feedback provided by the inspectors and will use this as a platform to further enhance and develop all aspect of the Catholic Life and Mission of our school. We are thrilled that inspectors recognised the improvements made since the last inspection; we are proud that our school is recognised as a place where 'Catholic social teaching permeates school life, enabling students and staff to translate faith into meaningful action and service', together with the school's Catholic mission being embedded so that students and staff are able to 'flourish'.

The Catholic Schools Inspection framework is demanding; staff and students have worked hard towards ensuring we are making significant improvements and progress in all areas of our Academy. The recognition of strength in leadership, prayer, environment, pupil participation and the celebration of diversity is testament to the ongoing commitment to all those involved, in the provision of Catholic education for our young people. In conversation with inspectors, our school was referred to as a 'beautiful Catholic community' which aptly describes how we place Christ at the centre of all that we do.

Your sincerely,

Mrs C F Hewerdine

(Headteacher)