



10 May 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

We recently underwent our Diocesan Canonical Inspection, which looks at our overall effectiveness, Catholic Life, Religious Education and Collective Worship.

We can now share the final report with you and we are pleased to tell you that there were many positives to take from the inspection.

Catholic Life in our school has been graded as 'Outstanding'. The inspectors wrote that: "As a result of this strong, dynamic and energetic leadership Catholic Life is in the fabric of the school. The Catholic Life of the school is promoted at all levels; there is exceptional contribution to this by the lay chaplain."

The report noted that overwhelmingly, pupils show a deep appreciation for the Catholic Life and mission of the school. They enthusiastically embrace the demands that membership of the school community entails. They are very much at the centre of shaping the Catholic Life of the school and its mission. As one pupil said, 'We are a community, one family, one knot of people in which Christ is at the centre and we grow in our faith here'.

Collective Worship was graded as 'Outstanding.' Inspectors said that morning and end of the school day prayer took place daily for staff and pupils. They said that: "Senior leaders show their commitment to Collective Worship on a daily basis and are true witnesses. Appropriate and effective training for staff, by the lay chaplain, helps to ensure that Collective Worship remains central to the life and core purpose of the school."

Inspectors said that the quality of Religious Education 'requires improvement' but they recognised that changes to teaching and learning have been implemented in recent months and there has not been enough time to gauge the impact on the quality of pupils' work. We are confident that the changes that have been introduced will bring about the required improvement and we are doing everything we can to ensure that this is the case.

Under the new grading system of the Diocesan Canonical Inspection, overall, inspectors graded the school as 'requires improvement'. This is a disappointment to us in light of the two Outstanding grades, but these are the parameters of the system that we are assessed under.

We would like to thank everyone for their support with this inspection, especially Rachel and our Religious Education department, and we are extremely proud of the inspectors' praise for Catholic Life and Collective Worship within our school. We are confident that the changes to teaching and learning in RE will be recognised in the next inspection as we continue on our journey to becoming an outstanding school in all areas.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs J McCarthy  
Headteacher**

**Mr K Gritton  
Executive Headteacher**

**Diocesan Inspection OUTSTANDING  
October 2013**

**St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust**  
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