

# St Anne's Catholic Primary School

URN: 104477

Catholic Schools Inspectorate report on behalf of the Archbishop of Liverpool

17–18 January 2024

## 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

1

#### Religious education (p.5)

The quality of curriculum religious education

1

#### Collective worship (p.7)

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

1

The school is fully compliant with the curriculum requirements laid down by the Bishops' Conference

Yes

The school is fully compliant with all requirements of the diocesan bishop

Yes

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

Fully

1

## What the school does well

- Leadership is inspirational and enriches the lives of the whole community.
- Teaching is creative, inclusive and provides effective challenge.
- Prayer and liturgy are integral to the life of the school.
- Behaviour both inside and outside the classroom is outstanding and demonstrates a genuine respect for one another.
- Strong parish links are appreciated and exemplary.

## What the school needs to improve

- Enable pupils to take a leading role in responding to the needs of our world.
- Increase pupils' capacity to evaluate their own learning more effectively.
- Provide a wider range of opportunities for spontaneous prayer.

## 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

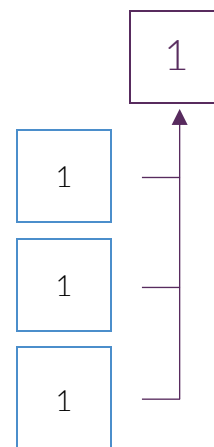
The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic life and mission of the school

#### 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 St Anne's understand that they are disciples of Jesus and embrace this calling willingly. They devote themselves to their mission and are key partners in the parish and wider community. Pupils articulate clearly that they are special, unique and very much loved by God. This leads to them feeling happy, safe and secure. Their mission of 'Living and working as Jesus taught us,' is known, lived and embraced by the pupils and fully endorsed by governors, staff and parents. Pupils are provided with vast and varied opportunities to flourish and develop as Christians who want to make a difference by serving others. They gladly embrace their responsibility to care for our common home and are immensely proud to have received the 'LiveSimply' award from Cafod. Pupils at St Anne's strive to make the world a better place and respond locally and nationally to those in need. Respect is given and received, and pupils have developed a clear understanding of their dignity and that of others. The behaviour of St Anne's pupils is exemplary.

The mission statement is clear and inspiring. Staff can identify what makes their school special. Christ is truly present and everyone lives out their mission gladly. Participation in all aspects of school life is freely given and gratefully appreciated. Staff articulate this as, 'their calling'. St Anne's is a thriving Catholic community with a strong culture of welcome. Going the extra mile comes as second nature to governors, staff, parents and children and this is embedded in the fabric of the school. The school proudly adapts opportunities to ensure they are meeting the needs of all. Staff are inspiring role models, who support the vulnerable with sensitivity. Pastoral care systems are effective and ensure every child has the confidence to go to their chosen, identified and trusted adult. The school's welcoming environment effectively promotes the teachings of the Church and inspires its pupils to do the same. The religious education team are authentic witnesses who lead by example. 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. The parish of St Agnes and St Aidan are appreciative of the support the school has given to their work with The Catholic Association for Racial Justice.

Leadership is a clear strength of the school and a source of inspiration for the whole community. There is a valued and dynamic partnership between school and parish. The parish appreciates the school promoting its campaigns such as the monthly food bank collections. School works closely with the archdiocese and regularly attends developmental events. Staff, including new members are supported well and focused continued professional development is frequent and effective. St Anne's was instrumental in the archdiocesan singing strategy and embraced this wholeheartedly. Leaders and governors visibly witness the gospel during the school day in the evening and at weekends. Their actions embody the Church's vision of protecting and serving those in greatest need. They provide an authentic commitment to Catholic social teaching. Staff feel valued and supported at St Anne's and appreciate all that is done for their wellbeing. The taught curriculum is coherent, creative and compelling, with the time to recognise and celebrate the achievements of individuals. Pupils are instrumental in the evaluation of the curriculum. As a result of classes adopting countries, the children have an in-depth knowledge of their patron saints and the contributions they made.

## Religious education

The quality of curriculum religious education

### Religious education key judgement grade

#### Pupil outcomes

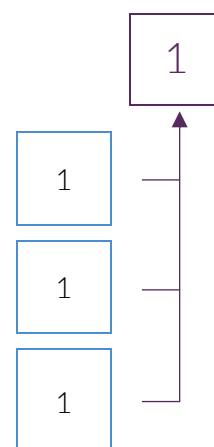
How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in religious education

#### 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 at St Anne's have an excellent understanding of their learning in religious education. They are fully engaged and enjoy their lessons, demonstrating high levels of religious literacy, recalling prior knowledge confidently, and using subject specific vocabulary. Pupils are challenged to reflect spiritually and think ethically. Work produced is of a consistently high standard and highly valued. Pupils achieve well and make consistently good progress, gaining the best possible outcomes. The culture of learning is affirming and creative, so inspiring pupils to be independent learners. Opportunities to synthesize learning are highly effective and result in excellent pieces of work. Every second of their learning is engaged with and pupils routinely reflect on what this learning means in their lives. Pupils reported that they enjoyed their religious education lessons and appreciate the efforts of staff to make them interesting and varied. They have a clear understanding of how they are progressing and can fully articulate this. Tracking systems are robust and accurate. Consequently, attainment in religious education is above the rate of achievement in other core subjects and this has been sustained over the past three years.

Teaching expertise and subject knowledge is strong. Lessons are meticulously planned to meet the needs of all pupils and demonstrate a deep commitment to their progress. Questioning was skilfully and effectively used to challenge learners. Adaptive planning which accommodates the needs of the individual is innovative and ensures learners are engaged with the subject matter of the lesson. The school takes pride in providing a wealth of varied enrichment activities such as regular trips to the parish and return visits from clergy, religious and lay members of the pastoral team. Celebrating achievements and effort is evident and leads to high levels of motivation and enjoyment. An example of this would be the Friday achievement assembly. The spiritual and moral developments of the pupils is at the heart of all religious education lessons and expertly supports pupils

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reflecting and making sense of the world. Teachers' collaborative planning ensures pupils are given extensive opportunities to produce their learning in a vast variety of forms. Teaching assistants are highly effective in optimising learning and high-quality resources are used extremely well to support learning.

The delivery of the whole school religious education curriculum is firmly embedded and demonstrates clear parity with other core subjects. It is creatively delivered and is a faithful expression of the bishops' requirements. This was evident in timetabling, staffing, marking and resources. Leaders and governors ensure staff receive regular high quality continuous professional development via training from the archdiocesan advisors, collaborative planning with a senior teacher, the modelling of lessons and moderation both in school and in the local cluster. The large religious education team, consisting of seven staff and in particular the headteacher, together provide a clear and robust vision. Pupils are treasured at St Anne's and leaders ensure that the needs of pupils are carefully planned for utilising excellent links with outside agencies. Leaders and governors demonstrate outstanding expertise and a continual commitment to improvement. They self-challenge critically, monitor regularly and analyse their findings to ensure the school is constantly moving forward. The impact of this highly effective self-evaluation has led to outstanding outcomes. Leaders and governors have been fully involved in the formulation of the Catholic Self Evaluation Document. They have a clear path for improvement and accurately evaluate the school's provision.

## 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



Pupils at St Anne's engage deeply in their daily high-quality prayer and liturgy experiences. From the youngest to the oldest, their responses to prayer and communal singing were joyful and reverent. There was a palpable sense of respect around the school when others were praying and an eager anticipation to participate. The tangible quality to the reflective silence following carefully selected and expertly proclaimed scripture passages demonstrated high engagement. Long standing routines within the school have ensured that St Anne's pupils are able to demonstrate an excellent understanding of the shape and meaning of the liturgical year. Pupils work collaboratively with others to prepare thoughtful and well-constructed experiences of prayer and liturgy. They relish their ministries around the school, for example highlighting the Sunday Gospel scripture passage in the entrance of the school. Having prepared and delivered a prayer and liturgy opportunity, pupils are able to reflect on its effectiveness and identify how they would adapt this in the future. Pupils recognise the role of prayer and liturgy in shaping them as Christians and speak confidently about how this has influenced the wider life of the school. They are proud of the difference they have made in the local community and examples of this include litter picking and supporting SHARe Knowsley, and in the wider world with Cafod, and Zoe's Place.

The predominance of prayer and worship in the life of the school was demonstrated through a wide range of engaging and creative experiences. Prayer and worship is indeed completely central and embedded into the fabric of the school. Staff are highly skilled in modelling and breaking down expertly how to carefully construct sessions which will both support and encourage all those who take part. The wide range of significant moments for example, 'In November we remember', provide both joyous and reflective opportunities for prayer. The pattern and rhythm of the Church in its breadth and richness is revealed to all who take part and families appreciate the support in the formation of their children. Scripture is chosen

meticulously to develop pupils understanding over time and to ensure all can actively participate. All staff, including senior leaders are inspiring witnesses and models of superb practice. Prayer and worship is enhanced by the nurturing relationships and creativity of the staff. A wide range of artefacts, music and other art forms (such as drama) are used to significantly enhance these experiences. St Anne's makes imaginative and creative use of prayer spaces, and these are owned and used well by the pupils.

The school's policy on prayer and liturgy is carefully formulated, reviewed, used as a reference point and fit for purpose. This has ensured that leaders including governors have a 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. The success of this strategy is evidenced by the increasing ease and confidence with which pupils participate in prayer experiences as they move through the school. Key times in the liturgical year are mapped out carefully to include visits to the parish and whole school events in the school building. Holy days of obligation and other significant feast days are regularly offered to the school community and attendance at Mass is promoted with enthusiasm. The formation and continuing professional development of all staff takes place frequently and is of a consistently high quality. Resources are chosen with care and provision is prioritised when setting budgets. Leaders and governors at St Anne's ensure prayer and liturgy self-evaluation is embedded across the school.

## Information about the school

Full name of school	St Anne's Catholic Primary School
School unique reference number (URN)	104477
School DfE Number (LAESTAB)	3403353
Full postal address of the school	St Anne's Catholic Primary School, Marina Crescent, Huyton, Liverpool, L36 5XL
School phone number	01514778260
Headteacher	Liam Anderson
Chair of Governors/Trustees	Sianne Usher and Joanne Burrows
School Website	<a href="http://www.stannesprimaryknowsley.co.uk/">www.stannesprimaryknowsley.co.uk/</a>
Trusteeship	Diocesan
Multi-academy trust or company (if applicable)	N/A
Phase	Primary
Type of school	Voluntary Aided School
Admissions policy	N/A
Age-range of pupils	3-11
Gender of pupils	Mixed
Date of last denominational inspection	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2016
Previous denominational inspection grade	Outstanding

## The inspection team

Julia Ashton  
Sharon Orwin

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