

# THE DIOCESES OF SHREWSBURY & CHESTER



## SECTION 48 INSPECTION REPORT:

### **Holy Spirit Catholic & Church of England Primary School, Leasowe**

School:	Holy Spirit Catholic and Church of England Primary School	
Address:	Gardenside Leasowe Wirral CH46 2RP	
Tel No:	0151 638 5180	
URN:	136124	
Headteacher:	Mrs J Cartmell	
Chair of Governors:	Rev J G Feeney	
Date of Inspection:	29 June 2017	
Inspectors:	Mrs C Morgan	(Diocese of Shrewsbury)
	Mr D Thorpe	(Diocese of Liverpool)



*“Love tenderly, act justly and walk humbly with God”  
(Michah 6:8)*

To teach and encourage the celebration of the Christian faith and thereby promote a good Christian Community, at the centre of which is the worship of God.

To develop and teach a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum, appropriate to the needs of the individual child and to acknowledge and develop fully each child’s potential within a caring environment.

To work towards each child’s realisation of self-esteem and to recognise the contributions which can be made by all children in the use of their individual talents and qualities.

To value the contribution of each staff member and encourage them to undertake training for their own development and the good of the school.

To foster an openness in communication and relationships within the school and community in the decision making process.

To forge links between home, school and parish and within the world wide community.

## FACTUAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

Pupils	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Number on roll	26	30	28	29	30	23	27	19	212
Catholics on roll	3	4	11	9	9	9	9	8	62
Other Christian denomination	13	17	12	12	12	7	11	6	90
Other faith background	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	3
No stated religious affiliation	9	8	5	8	9	7	7	4	57
Number of learners from ethnic groups	2	2	3	4	1	2	1	2	17
<b>Total on SEN Register</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Total with Statements of SEN</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>FSM</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>65</b>

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	0
Index of multiple deprivation				

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church	
St Chad's Church of England	

With reference to Year 6 – the Catholic schools to which your pupils transferred	
PUPILS TRANSFER	
Name of School	No of Pupils
St Mary's Catholic College	7
Woodchurch C of E Academy	1
Mosslands	6
Weatherhead	1
Kingsway Academy	4

RE TEACHING TIME	FS		Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
	PT	FT							
Total RE teaching time (Hours) -- per week	1.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	19

STAFFING	
Full-time teachers	9
Part-time teachers	2
Total full-time equivalent	10.2
Support assistants	11
Percentage of Catholic teachers f.t.e.	82%
How many teachers teach RE (P) f.t.e.	7
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	1
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	0

NAME OF SCHOOL	
Published admission number	30
Number of classes	7 + 1 Nursery Class
Average class size KS1	29
Average class size KS2	25

## FINANCIAL DATA

EXPENDITURE (£)	Last financial year 2015/2016	Current financial year 2016/2017	Next financial year 2017/2018
RE	£1734	£1500	£1500
English	£374	£5000	£3000
Mathematics	£1188	£1500	£2000
Science	£1000	£1000	£1000

<b>Key to judgements: Grade 1 is outstanding, grade 2 good, grade 3 requires improvement and grade 4 inadequate</b>	<b>Judgement</b>
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<b>OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCHOOL</b>	<b>1</b>
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**How effective the school is in providing Christian Education**

Holy Spirit school continues to provide an outstanding Christian Education, which is central to the life of the school. This is lived out by all in the school and it is evident that the Gospel values will continue to inspire all those involved with the school. The school is welcoming and calm, the atmosphere and displays speak clearly of the school's Christian character and adults and pupils speak respectfully to all.

The school lives out its Mission Statement in everything it undertakes:  
*"To Love tenderly, act justly and walk humbly with God."* (Micah 6:8)

All areas for development at the last inspection have been addressed fully.

**Areas of outstanding practice:**

- Opportunities for all pupils to engage in a variety of Collective Acts of Worship which encourage and develop confidence and independence as they progress through school.
- The deep commitment of all Leaders, Governors and Managers to the Christian mission in education and their determination to promote a good Christian Community, at the centre of which is the worship of God.
- The provision of a range of excellent opportunities which are designed to inspire and encourage the pupils to develop their self-esteem and to contribute their unique talents and qualities.

**What the school could do to improve further**

- There are plans to review the school values in the next academic year, providing an opportunity to look more closely at the fruits of the Holy Spirit, which the school celebrates in its daily life.
- To continue building upon the work already done to embed the school as an integral part of a strong, caring, supportive Christian community.

<b>PUPILS</b>	<b>1</b>
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**How good outcomes are for pupils, taking account of variations between different groups**

Pupils at Holy Spirit school are proud of their backgrounds and beliefs; they are able to express their views and beliefs with confidence, referring to how their belief in God leads them to try to follow the example and teaching of Jesus in all they do and say. Pupils on the Ethos Committee, formed this year, are very clear about their role in the school. They spoke about the work they have done already and of how they are looking forward to reviewing the values the school promotes. Even the youngest pupils were able to refer to scripture to illustrate the value of forgiveness and pupils' confident use of religious language was evident throughout the school.

Pupils appreciate the collaborative work they have done with two Church of England Primary schools and speak highly of all the activities and celebrations that take place in school and elsewhere during the year.

Pupils' care and concern for others is apparent in the way they treat each other and in the fundraising efforts they undertake for local, national and international charities and causes. They speak of how their belief in God leads them to show care and concern for their environment and the wider world. The school is part of a Global Learning Programme and, as a 'Rights Respecting School' they promote and celebrate the rights identified in the UNICEF Children's Charter. This is evident throughout the school.

The majority of children enter The Holy Spirit with a limited knowledge of the Christian faith and so standards of attainment on entry are low. However, as they move through the school, standards attained by pupils are good and progress is outstanding by the end of Key Stage Two. They participate well in lessons and respond positively to questions and challenging activities; their behaviour is excellent.

<b>PROVISION</b>	<b>1</b>
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**How effective the provision is for Christian Education**

Inspectors were able to observe that teaching is consistently highly effective in leading pupils' learning. Teachers' subject knowledge is excellent and they work hard to ensure that challenging and varied activities, along with outstanding questioning, motivate and inspire pupils to make exceptional progress in Religious Education. Inspectors were able to examine pupils' books and to observe that a variety of creative approaches, including outstanding art, leads to high quality responses from all abilities. Pupils are well supported by other adults who help them to sustain concentration and to ensure they are well motivated. Resources, including technology, are of a high quality across the school and pupils from all year groups are supported and encouraged to use religious artefacts and symbols to prepare and lead liturgies in their classrooms and for the whole school. The increased use of class Collective Worship boxes and resources from each diocese such as Prayer Trails and Celebrate Harvest further enhance Collective Worship and provide excellent opportunities for spiritual development.

Achievement and effort are celebrated regularly and pupils take immense pride in their work and celebrations.

All activities are well-planned and seek to enhance pupils' learning through exciting opportunities such as the provision of art specialists, who use different art forms to develop high quality responses to Religious Education topics.

The spiritual, moral social and cultural development of pupils is given a high priority at Holy Spirit and this is evident in their enthusiastic responses to the wide variety of activities on offer.

<b>LEADERS GOVERNORS AND MANAGERS</b>	<b>1</b>
<p><b>How effective leaders governors and managers are in developing the Christian Life of the school</b></p> <p>Holy Spirit School benefits from the inspiring and outstanding leadership of the Headteacher. The Deputy Headteacher, who is the Religious Education subject leader, also provides outstanding leadership and is well supported by the Anglican lead teacher. Staff are supported in delivering Religious Education and in planning for all aspects of the Christian life of the school. Monitoring and Assessment of Religious Education and of the Christian life of the school is rigorous and well-planned, so that leaders and governors have a strategic overview of what needs to be done and when.</p> <p>There is a great commitment to collaborative working within the school and also to work with both Catholic and Anglican diocesan organisations, as well as with other primary schools. The Headteacher is part of a national group representing joint church schools and is deeply committed to the further development of the Christian life of the school. The Deputy Head and Religious Education subject lead also commits a great deal of time and energy to Catholic, Anglican and Joint Church working groups and is also part of the national joint church working group .</p> <p>Governors provide excellent support and challenge to the school. These partnerships contribute greatly to the excellent understanding of the school’s mission.</p> <p>Leaders and Governors are immensely proud of the work that has been done already. The Parish Priest, who is also Chair of Governors, works closely with the Anglican ministers and the school. They are confident that, over the past few years, the school has made a significant contribution to the more positive attitudes and aspirations in the community.</p> <p>The school’s self-evaluation is excellent and this has been verified by external review. There is a great commitment from all to Continuing Professional Development and the school has a clear vision for the future, which is well-articulated across the whole school community.</p>	

<b>COLLECTIVE WORSHIP</b>	<b>1</b>
<p>Collective worship is very well planned. This has resulted in a clear format that provides worship leaders with a consistent but flexible structure. Pupils and adults engage fully with collective worship. It is central to the school’s ethos and Christian witness. Worship is relevant and sincere, and makes a significant difference to the lives of the members of the school family. The variety in leadership, style and format of worship ensures that it is always engaging. Pupils are involved in planning and leading worship. Bible readings, prayer and excellent singing are all part of a rich tapestry of spiritual inspiration. The pupils and adults present are captivated, thus gaining great insights into the Christian faith. Prayer is central to worship and pupils speak of how important it is and how it helps them to be better people. Sensitive teaching within worship enables the children to reach a deep level of Christian maturity.</p> <p>Another outstanding characteristic of worship is the work of the highly competent and enthusiastic Year 5 pupils, who regularly plan and lead worship for the younger children. These Year 5 pupils are excellent role-models. Parents and carers join with the school and both church communities at key points in the church calendar to worship together. The parish priest and vicar provide appropriate experiences of Catholic and Anglican traditions in worship and bring theological insights to the pupils and staff.</p>	

## Parents' Questionnaires

### 64 Parents returned questionnaires

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Don't Know
1	My child enjoys school	44	16	3	1	0
2	I am happy with the values and attitudes that the school teaches	47	16	1	0	0
3	I am made to feel welcome in school	54	10	0	0	0
4	The school seeks the views of parents/carers and takes account of their suggestions and concerns	38	24	2	0	0
5	The school gives me a clear understanding of what is taught in Religious Education	42	19	2	0	1
6	The school enables my children to achieve a good standard of work in Religious Education	44	18	0	0	2
7	The school keeps me well informed about my child(ren)'s progress in Religious Education	42	16	2	1	3

### Pupil Questionnaires (Year 2)

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	I like being at this school.	23	7	0
2	I learn new things in Religious Education lessons.	20	10	0
3	I enjoy learning about Jesus and how to live as His friend.	27	3	0
4	I have to work hard.	26	4	0
5	My teacher helps me when I get stuck so I can make my work better.	19	10	1
6	My teacher listens to me.	24	6	0
7	When I am unhappy there is always an adult I can talk to.	25	4	1
8	I get praise when I do my best.	24	6	0
9	Other children are kind and behave well	9	18	3
10	I am happy on the playground.	16	10	4
11	I am allowed to help in class and around school.	14	11	5
12	I enjoy the times we say our prayers, talk to God and sing songs about Jesus.	28	2	0

### Pupil Questionnaires (Year 6)

		Yes	Sometimes	No
1	Do you like being at this school?	17	2	0
2	Do you find out new things in Religious Education lessons?	14	5	0
3	Are your Religious Education lessons interesting?	12	7	0
4	Do you get help when you are stuck?	18	1	0
5	Do you have to work hard?	18	1	0
6	Do teachers show you how to make your work better?	18	1	0
7	Do other children behave well?	12	7	0
8	Are teachers fair to you?	18	1	0
9	Do teachers listen to your ideas?	17	2	0
10	Are you given responsibility?	18	1	0
11	Do you enjoy your times of prayer together?	15	4	0