



DIOCESE OF LANCASTER EDUCATION SERVICE

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION
REPORT (Section 48)**

**St Augustine's Catholic Primary School
Preston**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION
REPORT (Section 48)**

on

**THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL
AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

School:

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Address:

**St Austin's Place
Avenham
Preston
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School URN:

119607

Headteacher:

Mr John Entwistle

Chair of Governors:

Mr David Cox

Lead Inspector:

Mrs Michelle Holden

Team Inspector:

Mrs Frances Wygladala

Date of Inspection:

1st July 2022

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

St Augustine's is a Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in the Diocese of Lancaster. It is a large primary school situated in the centre of Preston. The socio-economic status of the school is deprived and the school location deprivation indicator is in the 5th quintile (most deprived) of all schools.

The Catholic children are a minority faith group (35%) in the current school community. The majority of pupils (43%) are of Asian heritage. A significant minority (21%) are of white British heritage. Overall, 24% of pupils are European heritage, mainly Polish. The remaining pupils are from other races. The pupils speak 19 different home languages, with 45% of pupils having English as an additional language.

30.5% of pupils are in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) and 27% being eligible for FSM6, which is above national and Lancashire averages.

Pupil mobility is slightly higher than the Lancashire average and the roll has increased over the last two years.

| PUPILS | YR | Y1 | Y2 | Y3 | Y4 | Y5 | Y6 | Total |
|-------------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------|
| Number on roll | 32 | 40 | 42 | 41 | 38 | 36 | 36 | 265 |
| Catholics on roll | 3 | 7 | 10 | 5 | 7 | 11 | 12 | 55 |
| Other Christian denomination | 1 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 24 |
| Other faith background | 26 | 25 | 22 | 23 | 22 | 12 | 16 | 146 |
| No religious affiliation | 2 | 5 | 9 | 7 | 6 | 8 | 3 | 40 |
| No of learners from ethnic groups | 28 | 33 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 26 | 30 | 213 |
| Total on SEN Register | 4 | 10 | 5 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 6 | 45 |
| Total with Statements of SEN (EHCP) | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 |

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|----------------------------------|-----------|---|------------|---|
| Exclusions in last academic year | Permanent | 0 | Fixed term | 2 |
| Index of multiple deprivation | E | | | |

| PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| Name of Parish | No of Pupils |
| St John XXIII | 34 |
| St Wilfrid's | 5 |
| St Maria Goretti's | 15 |
| Our Lady & St Edward's | 1 |

| TEACHING TIME FOR RE | YR | YR/1 | Y1/2 | Y2 | Y3 | Y3/4 | Y4/5 | Y5/6 | Y6 | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-------|
| Total teaching time (Hours) | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 2.5 | 20.5 |
| % of teaching time | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% | 10% |

| TEACHING TIME FOR ENGLISH | YR | YR/1 | Y1/2 | Y2 | Y3 | Y3/4 | Y4/5 | Y5/6 | Y6 | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-------|
| Total teaching time (Hours) | 6.2 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 6.2 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 42.6 |
| % of teaching time | 31% | 31% | 31% | 31% | 24% | 24% | 24% | 24% | 24% | |

| TEACHING TIME FOR MATHS | YR | YR/1 | Y1/2 | Y2 | Y3 | Y3/4 | Y4/5 | Y5/6 | Y6 | Total |
|-----------------------------|-----|------|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-------|
| Total teaching time (Hours) | 5 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 48 |
| % of teaching time | 25% | 30% | 30% | 30% | 20% | 20% | 20% | 20% | 20% | |

| STAFFING | |
|---|------|
| Full-time teachers | 11 |
| Part-time teachers | 2 |
| Total full-time equivalent (FTE) | 11.6 |
| Classroom Support assistants | 28 |
| Number of Catholic teachers FTE | 62% |
| Number of teachers teaching RE | 9 |
| Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent | 4 |
| Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS | 0 |
| Chaplaincy staffing | 0.4 |

| ORGANISATION | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Published admission number | 38 |
| Number of classes | 9 |
| Average class size KS1 | 29 |
| Average class size KS2 | 31 |

| EXPENDITURE (£) | Last financial year 2021 | Current financial year 2022 | Next financial year |
|--|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Total expenditure on teaching and learning resources | £18,500 | £20,000 | £ |
| RE Curriculum allowance from above | 1,210 | 1,300 | |
| English Curriculum allowance from above | 4,000 | 4,000 | |
| Total CPD budget | 3,735 | 5,600 | |
| RE allocation for CPD | 255 | 750 | |
| Chaplain Wage | 9,841 | 12,023 | |

| How the school has developed since the last inspection |
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| <p>The school was previously inspected under Section 48 in 2015. It has gone through a number of staff changes since the last inspection, with a few long standing members of staff having moved on for promotions and strong staff have been appointed from inside and outside of the school.</p> <p>Whilst the headteacher has remained, there have been significant changes to staff, including a new senior leadership team. His experience and enthusiasm continues to drive the school forward.</p> <p>The Parish Priest is new to his role and strong links are being developed. The area for improvement has been addressed and the school's capacity for improvement is outstanding.</p> |

INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

1

CATHOLIC LIFE

1

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

St Augustine's is an outstanding Catholic school. It is a very welcoming and inclusive learning environment where the mission statement is 'Unique and united in God's love. We let our light shine'. This Mission Statement message underpins the life of the school, enabling everyone to grow in love for one another and to develop in faith. There is a deep commitment by all governors, leadership and staff to the continued development of the school. Pupils enjoy attending St Augustine's and they have positive attitudes to learning. One Year 6 pupil described St Augustine's as a place where *'we learn about our faith and this teaches us to be good people who care'*. One pupil spoke about everyone in school being *'called to serve'* and explained this as *'our own individual vocation.'* Pupils deepen the knowledge of their faith throughout their time in school and showed respect and interest of other religions, learning from the faiths of each other. The school lives out its mission each day. The RE governor, who has an educational background, regularly visits the school, supporting staff and pupils alike, offering sound advice and constructive challenge. The leadership has ensured that the recommendations since the last inspection have been addressed successfully. The headteacher shares the subject leadership with a relatively new member of staff and they work well together to ensure that the Catholic life of the school and curriculum RE are outstanding. The inspectors analysed evidence that demonstrated regular monitoring of worship and Curriculum RE was carried out.

The Catholic life of the school is outstanding and the commitment from the governors, headteacher and SLT, staff and parish clergy to support pupils in their prayer life and to grow in faith has remained a priority despite challenges over the last two academic years. Staff set good examples, support each other, are proud of their school and work well together. They value the support and opportunities that they have to deepen their own religious knowledge and deepen their own spirituality. The recently appointed Parish Priest and clergy from the local Jesuit community ensure that the Catholic children are supported in their faith and are able to attend Mass. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is outstanding and has an impact on everyday life at St Augustine's. This can be seen through pupils' behaviour, their responses to each other and to their understanding of the notion of the common good. The pupils actively and willingly become involved in a variety of activities supporting their own and the wider community. The 'One World Group' have raised money for the vulnerable groups in society and for a school in Kenya to which they are linked. The pupils have their own chaplaincy team who are supported by the school chaplain to help develop worship in class and encourage child-led worship.

Parents appreciate this close-knit community school and they welcome opportunities to participate in school life, such as the family liturgies and Masses. Values, rooted in Catholic teachings, permeate school life and pupils are helped to grow in faith. The quality of prayer

and liturgy are outstanding; pupils act with reverence and join in prayers confidently. They sing joyfully and on the day of the inspection were observed singing reverently during Mass, using appropriate actions. Prayer and Liturgies observed in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 demonstrate that children prepare and plan these with thought and care. They make full use of resources available to them and appreciate the opportunities offered, for example, Masses and liturgies.

The quality of curriculum RE is outstanding and pupils are provided with an excellent range of learning opportunities to deepen their faith, to understand Catholic traditions and practices, and to make progress in their learning. Pupils enjoy RE lessons and many aspects of the curriculum are outstanding. The pupils spoken to on the day of inspection demonstrated excellent scriptural knowledge and deep thinking. All books scrutinised on the day confirmed this. Clear action plans are in place to continue to raise attainment and progress and these are linked to the School Development Plan. The monitoring and assessment of all end of phase expectations, is evident in pupils' books and is instrumental in the evaluation and the provision of curriculum RE. A programme of work that is personalised to the school and that both enhances and fulfils the Bishop's Conference requirements, is being used in order to sustain high standards in RE.

Teachers' subject knowledge is outstanding and has a positive impact on the delivery of curriculum RE. Teachers are well supported in terms of professional development. The curriculum meets the needs of all learners in line with diocesan and national recommendations.

The Human Relationships and Sex Education (HRSE) policy is in place and its delivery is embedded with the curriculum.

The school's capacity to maintain improving standards is outstanding.

WHAT THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO DO TO IMPROVE FURTHER

To improve further the school needs to:

- To plan for curriculum changes in preparation for the new Curriculum Directory and challenge the more able.
- To develop confidence and independence with prayer and liturgy as pupils progress up the school.
- To continue to develop and express the ecclesial dimension of the school through partnerships with diocesan family of schools to further develop the Bishop's vision for collaboration.

PART A: CATHOLIC LIFE

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

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Inspection confirms the judgement made by the school that pupils make an outstanding contribution to the Catholic life of the school, and benefit from that life in a range of ways.

All governors, leaders, teachers and support staff at St Augustine's are wholly committed to supporting the Catholic ethos of the school and its mission and this culture is embedded in the life of the school family. It is a fully inclusive school with pupils demonstrating high levels of respect and empathy for each other. Pupils are proud of their backgrounds and faith and the school have created a respectful culture which enables all pupils to share their beliefs and learn about the faiths of others. Pupils are not afraid to share their views with others in class; during worship and in RE lessons.

Pupils show a good understanding of the need to forgive and they demonstrate a very good knowledge of the teachings of Jesus. All pupils attend daily worship with no pupils being withdrawn. This demonstrates the strong, trustworthy relationships that exists between the school and the communities that it serves.

The pupils' knowledge and understanding of the Catholic life of the school is greatly enhanced by their participation in and contribution to all aspects of school life. Pupils are proud to belong to St Augustine's Catholic School family and they shared with the inspectors that 'everyone can be themselves at St Augustine's'. The religious art and the displays are of a very high quality facilitating understanding of purposeful prayer and liturgy.

The governors, leaders and managers are fully committed to the Church's Mission in education. They have a very good understanding of the needs and priorities in school relating to the Catholic life of the school. The governors prioritise this and as a result, they have employed a chaplain to support prayer and Liturgy across the school. This chaplain works across two schools and demonstrates collaboration within Catholic schools in the area. Confidence and independence with prayer and liturgy need to be developed as pupils progress up the school.

The RE governor has significant educational experience working in Catholic schools and is a regular visitor into school. A termly report is presented to governors to update about progress against SDP priorities of prayer and worship and curriculum RE.

Every class has a worship area which reflects the topic being taught, is meaningful and follows the Liturgical Year.

The pastoral team established in school, work tirelessly to support the families in school. Support is given through food parcels, furniture, financial help, support in completing paperwork, parenting advice and Early Help assessments.

The school has strong relationships with parents and the local community. This is evidenced in the positive parental questionnaires.

The school has good links with the primary and secondary schools in the local Catholic cluster. The quality of provision for the Catholic life of the school is outstanding. St Augustine's is a welcoming, inclusive, friendly community with a strong family ethos where everyone is valued and pupils and staff flourish. Governors, managers and staff have high expectations and a shared vision with regard to the Catholic mission and ethos.

The school is a prayerful community that provides a stimulating learning environment to reflect the school's mission and Catholic character. Staff and governors work hard to develop and enhance the school for the benefit of everyone at St Augustine's. Staff INSET has ensured Continuous Professional Development (CPD) in RE and staff's subject knowledge has been strengthened. A great range of opportunities have been offered and taken up by staff including INSET led by lead RE teachers and training for the school's cluster group.

Christ's teachings are central to all that they do in school and the Gospel Values permeate throughout the school. On the day of inspection, this could be witnessed by how the pupils interacted with one another. St Augustine's is very much a Catholic school which demonstrates the importance that God plays in our lives. Worship and prayer is central to enabling the pupils to grow in their faith journey and securing their knowledge that they are unique in God's eyes.

The ten Gospel Values are central to all that happens in school and pupils are able to articulate the importance of living out these values. These values can be seen around the school walls and underpin everything that happens at St Augustine's.

The school have recently created a 'garden-room', which is a multi-purpose pastoral room. This is often used for group and individual prayer. The prayer garden was observed on the day of inspection and is used for outdoor worship with a beautiful statue of Our Lady overlooking this purposeful space. The newly formed entrance has a specially devoted area for worship, displaying the weekly Liturgical reading and prayers. This can be accessed by all staff and pupils.

PART B: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

THE QUALITY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

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

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RE at St Augustine's is outstanding. During the inspection, pupils were highly engaged and motivated, they talked enthusiastically about their learning and were proud of the work that they have produced. One child said 'RE teaches us about making the right choices.' Lessons observed during the inspection in Key Stage 1 showed high standards and was well differentiated for all groups of learners. The support given to all pupils at St Augustine's is outstanding. Lessons in Key Stage 2 were well planned with great creativity, in the Year 6 lesson on the gifts of the Holy Spirit pupils discussed many contextual practical examples to help them as they move to high school. The pace of the lessons was excellent and the progress of the pupils was impressive.

Children in the Foundation Stage talk confidently about their work in RE and are able to talk about liturgical seasons, and Church celebrations. The RE curriculum provides good opportunities for spiritual and moral development. RE lessons have been skilfully tailored to incorporate learning from scripture to how we live our lives today. Pupils are able to explain how beliefs and values inspire and influence them and others. Through RE provision children are taught about other faiths and cultures – this is something the pupils and staff value and appreciate.

Children enter the Foundation Stage with attainment below age related expectations in RE. They make very good progress throughout the Foundation Stage and enter Key Stage 1 with many children in line with expectations. Taking into account the disruption of the Pandemic, the pupils make very good progress in Key Stage 1. This progress continues throughout Key Stage 2 and by the end of Year 6, pupils attainment is in line with expectations with some children achieving beyond age related expectations. RE books support this and progress is good for all groups of pupils including, pupil premium children, children with English as an additional language and children with special educational needs.

Governors and school leaders place high importance on RE and much work has taken place monitoring and evaluating aspects of RE with the new RE governor. The subject leader provides detailed information about the quality of learning and standards in RE. Planning for curriculum changes in preparation for the new Curriculum Directory and challenge for the more able are priorities for the future.

Parents speak highly of the school and there are many links with other schools in the area. The importance of service is strong at St Augustine's, there are regular collections for the local foodbanks and impressive amounts of money have been raised to support charities including Shalom Academy in Irovo, Kenya and humanitarian support for the people of the Ukraine.

The RE curriculum meets all the requirements of the Bishops' Conference and is informed by the Curriculum Directory and the Diocesan document 'Fit for Mission? Schools' and Relationships, Health and Sex Education (RHSE) directives.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

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| Overall Effectiveness | 1 |
| Capacity for sustained improvement | 1 |
| Catholic Life | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic Life of the school. | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well leaders and managers promote and ensure provision for the Catholic Life of the school through monitoring and evaluation. | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school. | 1 |
| Religious Education | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education. | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How well leaders and managers monitor and evaluate the provision for Religious Education. | 1 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The quality of provision in Religious Education. | 1 |

| | Pupil Outcomes | Leadership & Management | Provision | Overall |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Catholic Life | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Religious Education | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |