



Archdiocese of Birmingham
St. Mary's Catholic Academy
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Dear Parents,

I am delighted to share some wonderful news from our recent Catholic School Inspection. The full report is attached. It highlights how wonderful our children and whole school community are, as well as the quality of Catholic education we provide here at our school, both of which we are incredibly proud. As a Catholic school, we are inspected by two equally important authorities: Ofsted and the Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI). CSI is a legal requirement recognised by parliament for Catholic education and its framework has become far more demanding in recent years, so to achieve the outstanding grade is now more challenging than in years gone by. Please do read the full report - below is a brief summary.

Overall Effectiveness

We are thrilled to announce that our school has been graded as **Outstanding** (Grade 1) in all key areas, including Catholic life and mission, religious education, and collective worship.

The report praises our safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment, where Christ is truly at the heart of our community. Our staff's dedication to helping everyone grow in faith ensures that both teachers and pupils live out the Gospel values every day. The quality of teaching in religious education is described as consistently excellent, with lessons that are dynamic, engaging, and inclusive. Our pupils also show great reverence during prayer and liturgy, demonstrating a deep understanding of both traditional and modern practises.

Catholic Life and Mission

The report confirms that our school's mission statement is well understood and embraced by everyone, creating a culture of care and respect. Our pupils actively contribute to the Catholic life of the school, showing exemplary behaviour and supporting one another. The strong connections we have with our local parish enhance our sense of community.

Religious Education

When it comes to religious education, our pupils display excellent knowledge, engagement, and enjoyment, achieving higher results than in other core subjects. Our teachers are praised for their deep understanding of the subject and their commitment to creating learning experiences that are both challenging and supportive.

Collective Worship

During collective worship, our pupils show enthusiasm and reverence, engaging deeply with liturgy and prayer. Our structured approach allows them to take on leadership roles, helping them feel a sense of responsibility and belonging.

Overall, this report reaffirms our mission to provide a high-quality Catholic education and to nurture the spiritual growth of our pupils. It is clear that the strength of our partnership with parents goes hand in hand with the success of our school. We know that this is the result you all wished for, and we would like to thank the many families who took the time to complete the inspection survey.

We are committed to building on our strengths and addressing any areas for improvement, ensuring that St Mary's Catholic Academy remains a nurturing and inspiring place for our children.

Thank you for your continued support!

Warm regards,
Mrs Rathbone
Principal

