

St. Alban & St. Stephen Catholic Primary School & Nursery Cecil Road, St Albans, AL1 5EG

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"Learning and Growing with God by our side"

Catholic Schools Inspection

Friday July 12th 2024

Dear Parents and carers,

As you are aware, we had our Catholic Schools Inspection in June. We are delighted to be able to share our final report with you. The inspection team judged that our Catholic Life and Mission is outstanding, Religious Education is good, and that Collective Worship is good with outstanding leadership. The Chief Inspector of Schools has also thanked us and sent congratulations, saying:

"It was wonderful to read about the school's journey since the last inspection and the profound commitment of the staff and pupils to living out the mission within the school. The report highlights the dedication of the pupils, staff, and leaders in fostering a vibrant Catholic community that faithfully serves the Church's educational mission. The grades awarded across all aspects of Catholic life and mission are a testament to the hard work, passion, and faith that permeate your school."

In common with our Ofsted report, our Catholic Schools Inspection report highlights our 'warm and welcoming, caring environment...where everyone feels valued and respected'. Staff are praised for providing, 'the highest levels of pastoral care for pupils'. The inspectors also commented that 'pupils know that they are special and unique in the eyes of God. They show a deep respect for one another, and this is particularly evident in the many spontaneous acts of kindness witnessed in the interactions that took place in lessons and around the school.' In R.E. lessons, inspectors noticed that our pupils 'clearly enjoy learning' and described them as 'religiously literate' with the ability to 'use their knowledge to reflect spiritually, ethically and theologically.' The inspection team were also very impressed by our Pupil Chaplaincy Team and Prayer Leaders. Finally, we are very proud of every single one of the children for the way that they participate in prayer and worship. The inspectors felt that, 'All pupils, including the youngest, are very reverent and engage in prayer with sincerity and respect.'

We are so grateful to all our staff, pupils, families and governors for showing the inspectors all that is special about our school during the two inspection days. Thank you in particular to those children and parents who spoke to the inspection team – many of your lovely comments have been included in the report.

Kind regards,

Head of School

T. Hacusty