



**DIOCESE OF LANCASTER EDUCATION SERVICE**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION  
REPORT (Section 48)**

**St John Vianney Catholic Primary  
School**

**Blackpool**

**DENOMINATIONAL INSPECTION  
REPORT (Section 48)**

on

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

<b>School:</b>	<b>St John Vianney Catholic Primary School</b>
<b>Address:</b>	<b>Glastonbury Ave, Blackpool FY1 6RD</b>
<b>Telephone Number:</b>	<b>01253 311248</b>
<b>Email Address:</b>	<b>head@st-john-vianney.blackpool.sch.uk</b>
<b>School URN:</b>	<b>119598</b>
<b>Headteacher:</b>	<b>Mrs Elaine Allen</b>
<b>Chair of Governors:</b>	<b>Mrs Cathy Butterworth</b>
<b>Lead Inspector:</b>	<b>Mrs Adrienne Delaney</b>
<b>Team Inspector:</b>	<b>Mrs Rachel Ballard</b>
<b>Date of Inspection:</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> March 2018</b>

## INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

St John Vianney's is a Catholic voluntary aided primary school in the Diocese of Lancaster. It is an above average-sized primary school with currently 458 pupils on roll, of which approximately 65% are baptised Roman Catholics. Other pupils come from no faith or other Christian backgrounds. There is a very small number of pupils from other world faiths. Most pupils are of White British heritage with 17% from other cultural backgrounds. A number of new to England pupils join each year from other countries and there is some mobility.

Approximately 11.3% of pupils are on the SEND register.

The school has been modernised and altered due to its popularity and growing numbers.

PUPILS	YN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Number on roll	41	60	60	60	60	58	60	59	458
Catholics on roll	29	39	35	36	43	42	32	43	299
Other Christian denomination	6	9	8	8	5	5	7	14	62
Other faith background	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
No religious affiliation	6	10	17	16	11	11	21	2	94
No of learners from ethnic groups	6	13	7	11	9	16	6	11	79
Total on SEN Register	2	3	7	8	9	8	13	11	61
Total with Statements of SEN	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2

Exclusions in last academic year	Permanent	0	Fixed term	3
Index of multiple deprivation	0.40			

PARISHES SERVED BY THE SCHOOL	
Name of Parish	No of Pupils
St John Vianney	282

TEACHING TIME FOR RE	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	2.33	2.33	2.33	2.5	2.5	2.5	2.5	17
% of teaching time	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%

TEACHING TIME FOR ENGLISH	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	35
% of teaching time	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

TEACHING TIME FOR MATHS	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Total
Total teaching time (Hours)	2.5	4.5	3.75	5	5	5	5	30.75
% of teaching time	10.7	19.5%	16.9%	20%	20%	20%	20%	20%

<b>STAFFING</b>	
Full-time teachers	18
Part-time teachers	5
Total full-time equivalent (FTE)	21.9
Classroom Support assistants	30
Number of Catholic teachers FTE	81%.
Number of teachers teaching RE	16
Number of teachers with CCRS or equivalent	14
Number of teachers currently undertaking CCRS	4
Chaplaincy staffing	
Teachers with CTC	

<b>ORGANISATION</b>	
Published admission number	30
Number of classes	7
Average class size KS1	30
Average class size KS2	30

<b>EXPENDITURE (£)</b>	<b>Last financial year 2016-17</b>	<b>Current financial year 2017-18</b>	<b>Next financial year 2018-2019</b>
Total expenditure on teaching and learning resources	£ 18253	£ 23 139	£ 25000
RE Curriculum allowance from above	692	1854	2000
English Curriculum allowance from above	1485+5000 books	5465+5000 books	10000
Total CPD budget	12815	2000	10000
RE allocation for CPD	1000	2000	15000

<b>How the school has developed since the last inspection</b>
<p>All aspects for improvement since the last inspection have been addressed and have had a sustained and positive impact on raising standards. A well-embedded baseline assessment and detailed tracking system across the school are in place and governors are well informed and able to monitor attainment and progress in curriculum RE. Improvements are consistently identified and acted upon through rigorous marking, monitoring and assessment.</p> <p>The school has an outstanding capacity to sustain this continuous improvement. The dedication of the governors together with the commitment of the leadership team and all staff, demonstrate the capacity to facilitate continuous improvement. Inspection has shown that self-evaluation is accurate and new and innovative areas for development in curriculum RE have been identified and embedded.</p>

## INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

**OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS**

1

**CATHOLIC LIFE**

1

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION**

1

### OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS

St John Vianney's is an outstanding Catholic school. It is a very welcoming and inclusive learning establishment where the school's aim: 'Seeking growth together through Jesus' underpins the life of the school: pupils enjoy attending and they have positive attitudes to learning. On the day of inspection a Key Stage 2 pupil described St John Vianney's as a place where 'Jesus is at the centre of all we do.' Pupils are proud of their school. One Year 2 pupil stated 'In our Catholic school we learn about Jesus from the Bible.' They deepen the knowledge of their faith throughout their time in school and gain a firm understanding of Catholic practice. The school lives out its mission statement: 'through Jesus we seek to grow as a caring Catholic community in faith and love'. Governors play a significant part in leading the strategic direction of the school in the community that it serves. The RE governor regularly visits the school offering advice and constructive challenge and the established leadership has ensured that recommendations since the last inspection have been addressed successfully. The head teacher and her two RE leaders have been tireless in their efforts to ensure that the Catholic Life of the school and curriculum RE are outstanding. The work of the governors, head teacher, RE Leaders and the support staff in raising standards and putting the Catholic Life of the school at the forefront of their plans for St John Vianney's, is a great strength of the school.

The Catholic Life of the school is outstanding and the commitment from the head, the governors, staff, and parish clergy to support pupils in their prayer life and growth in faith is a high priority. Staff set good examples, support each other, are proud of their school and work well together. Their subject knowledge, together with their commitment to high standards in teaching and learning in RE, ensures that standards are high. The Assistant Priest, a regular and welcome visitor to the school, actively fulfils his role both spiritually and pastorally. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils is outstanding and has an impact on everyday life at St John Vianney's. This can be seen through pupils' 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. They have raised funds for the local homeless charity 'Street Life', Macmillan Cancer Care, CAFOD and a school that they link with in Nepal. This contributes to pupils' social, emotional and moral development. Parents appreciate the school and they welcome opportunities to participate in school life. Gospel Values permeate school life and pupils are

helped to grow in faith, make the most of their abilities and become missionaries in spreading the Word.

Opportunities for Prayer and Liturgy are outstanding; pupils act with reverence and join in prayers confidently. They sing joyfully and participate in high quality and appropriate role-play. Prayers and liturgies observed in Key Stage 1 and 2 demonstrate that children gradually learn to prepare and plan these with thought and care. They make full use of resources available to them and appreciate the opportunities offered to them. From an early age the Mass responses are included in liturgies so that pupils have a clear understanding of prayer and its purpose. They enjoy and appreciate the Masses and liturgies that take place in church and school.

Parents appreciate this popular Catholic school and they welcome opportunities to participate in school life.

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. Clear action plans are in place to continue to raise attainment and progress. The monitoring and assessment of all strands of curriculum delivery is having an excellent effect on evaluation of the provision of curriculum 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.

Governors and leaders take full account of the '*Fit for Mission? Schools*' guidance.

The recent Human Relationships and Sex Education (HRSE) policy is in place and its delivery is becoming embedded.

The school's capacity to maintain standards is outstanding.

### **WHAT THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO DO TO IMPROVE FURTHER**

To improve further the school needs to:

- Improve outcomes for all pupils by:  
Further developing the good practice of providing more opportunities for pupils to learn about world faiths so that they have a firm understanding of these as they progress to high school.
- Celebrate successes by:  
Further developing the school's mission by sharing the outstanding practice that exists at St John Vianney's, amongst the cluster and the wider diocesan school communities.

## PART A: CATHOLIC LIFE

### THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

1
---

- 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

1
---

1
---

1
---

Inspection confirms the judgement made by the school that pupils benefit from, and make an outstanding contribution to, the Catholic Life of the school.

Governors, leaders, teachers and support staff at St John Vianney'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 whole school family.

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 know that they belong to St John Vianney's Catholic Parish family and are proud to be part of the school and parish. For example, a Year 2 pupil retold the previous week's Gospel story without prompting and mentioned how the parish priest explains things to them. He talked about St John Vianney's pupils being 'all one family'. Pupils' leadership of Prayer and Liturgy is outstanding. From the Foundation Stage onwards pupils develop their ability to share their own faith through whole class Prayer and Liturgy. During the inspection pupils in the Y1 class were reverent throughout the Prayer and Liturgy. When asked what a template of a dove reminded them of one child said 'it is a symbol of the Holy Spirit.' Another child was seen placing the template on his shoulder and then his head re-enacting the story of St David and the Baptism of Christ which they had discussed previously. Pupil's skills are developed throughout Key Stage 2 where pupils are able to use and quote Gospel readings and use liturgical responses.

Pupils understand that their Catholic Faith is different from other faiths and that they share this distinctiveness with other Catholic schools. Activities that have enabled this understanding are the celebration of Mass with the parish, fundraising with the parish and collecting money for the homeless, the Bishop's Fund and CAFOD.

On the day of inspection a group of children spoke enthusiastically about their Good Samaritan and Parable of the Talents weekly awards and understood their importance. This articulation of ethos encourages best behaviour and focused learning. Catholic principles and values underpin behaviour and relationship policies resulting in a strong, shared vision for the Catholic Life of the school.

The Assistant Priest, lay helpers in school, governors, school leaders, teachers and support staff are fully committed to fulfilling their role in ensuring outstanding provision for the Catholic Life of the school. They have high expectations and are actively working together to implement the Catholic philosophy of education and Gospel values which permeate all aspects of school life. An example of this is the excellent religious work displayed throughout the school that demonstrates liturgical understanding, scriptural knowledge and a deep appreciation of the Catholic faith. The head teacher provides a clear direction for the Catholic Life of the school and gives it the highest priority, along with the spiritual and moral development of pupils. Her deputy, RE leaders and all staff have a strong vision for the school which is articulated through their actions.

The Governors, leaders and managers are committed to partnerships with the diocesan family of parishes and schools. The school has excellent links with the primary and secondary schools in the local Catholic cluster and shares liturgies and celebrations with them.

Children fundraise for local homeless persons through Harvest and Lenten giving. They have raised significant amounts of money for CAFOD and other charities. These activities demonstrate the living out of the school's mission statement which says that by 'using the talents we have been given we achieve the best we can'. The quality of provision for the Catholic Life of the school is outstanding. St John Vianney'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. There is a palpable sense of family and community in all aspects of school life which is evident in the quality of relationships that exist between all stakeholders.

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 John Vianney's. Staff INSET has ensured CPD in RE and staff subject knowledge has been strengthened through reflection days, peer mentoring and training from Diocesan Leader in Education (DLE).



## PART B: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

### THE QUALITY OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

1
---

- 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

1
---

1
---

1
---

Inspection confirms the school's judgement that the extent to which pupils enjoy and achieve in Religious Education is outstanding.

Pupils at St John Vianney's enjoy RE, are religiously literate and engaged in their learning. Through meaningful participation in prayer and liturgies, together with outstanding curriculum coverage, pupils show excellent knowledge and understanding of the Catholic Faith. They understand that Christ is at the centre of all school life and are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life. For example, a Year 5 child spoke of how 'Faith changes people's lives. Like Zacchaeus'. The vast majority of pupils make rapid and sustained progress in RE from a low baseline in RE when they join St John Vianney's in Foundation Stage. They develop and apply a range of skills throughout Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, including independence and imagination. This is built upon in Key Stage 2 where pupils reflect upon their own scriptural knowledge of, for example the meaning of the Lord's Prayer that enable them to forgive, love and respect. They are able to reflect on the notion of justice and the common good.

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'. RE is at the centre of the school's curriculum and is given priority in the improvement planning where targets are clearly identified and set, in order to maintain outstanding attainment. Since the last inspection the culture has continued to improve, ensuring that the common vision and commitment to high standards remain at the forefront of school life. This is largely due to the excellent practice of the head teacher, RE leaders, deputy and assistant who ensure that pupils continue to make progress in their religious literacy. Professional discussions during staff meetings explore how enthusiastic and imaginative teaching motivates pupils and deepens their understanding of the subject. However, this good practice now needs to be shared within the cluster and also with the wider community of schools.

Teaching in RE is outstanding. Support staff are deployed effectively to assist pupils with additional needs. In lessons observed, teachers showed excellent subject knowledge, built on prior learning and differentiated tasks to suit the needs of all learners. Next step marking is embedded across the school and work in all exercise

books is exemplary. Pupils are aware of their next steps for learning and they know what to do to improve through targets displayed in their books.

Since the last inspection the school has implemented and refined its rigorous system of monitoring. This includes the monitoring of lesson plans, book scrutiny, informal and formal observation of lessons and conversations with pupils. This practice, together with pastoral and behaviour support, has made a significant impact on the continuous improvement in the teaching and learning of RE. Teachers make pupils aware of how to improve their work through high quality marking to inform pupils of their next steps in learning.

Leaders have implemented a unique system of intervention for RE which ensures that standards are maintained and continually improved.

Teachers' planning is based on 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' and the Caritas in Action scheme and teachers confidently enrich the curriculum with other valuable resources e.g. CAFOD's Universal Church topics, the 'Come and See' scheme, and the 'We Believe' scheme. The curriculum wheel that has been devised in the diocese has been incorporated into planning. Staff are using these and other resources to develop programmes of work that specifically cover the attainment targets and the strands. Innovative ways of incorporating more opportunities for pupils to learn more about monotheistic traditions have been implemented. These now need to be further embedded. Staff subject knowledge is very good due to their own drive for excellence in RE and to the opportunities offered to them. Governors are informed of the curriculum through reports at meetings and regular visits to school.

Every class has an area for pupils to celebrate Prayer and Liturgy along with full access to the new designated prayer area for their own spiritual growth. All classes have access to the parish church.

Pupils' progress in RE in each of the attainment targets (knowledge and understanding of religion and an ability to reflect on meaning), is outstanding and is reported to parents in termly reports alongside other core curriculum subjects. Careful monitoring and assessment has identified areas for improvement in delivery of lessons and the setting of tasks. Communication with parents is good with regular newsletters being sent home and the website class areas being regularly updated. Regular newsletters gives parents an overview of RE and the school's open door policy enables parents to discuss RE matters with school staff.

Pupil attainment and progress in RE is outstanding and is in line with high standards in English and maths. Since the last inspection, the head teacher and subject leaders have facilitated training for all staff and modelled excellent practice to ensure that standards in teaching RE remain outstanding. Analysis of the progress of all groups of learners enables success to be celebrated.

The school serves a culturally diverse Christian community. Pupils have the utmost respect for each other and can articulately discuss their faith and that of others.

Good quality teaching and effective learning are present in RE lessons. Pupils enjoy RE because teachers make their lessons engaging, interesting and relevant.

The quality of curriculum provision for RE is outstanding. Opportunities for CPD, staff meetings, the sharing of good practice and INSET have all helped staff to reflect on the teaching of RE and the Catholic Life of the school. These have also enabled them to build on their excellent subject knowledge. This contributes to confidence in teaching RE: teachers inspire pupils and make sure that they make exceptional progress as independent and collaborative learners. Resources are used effectively, together with the support provided by adults, to optimise learning; consequently pupils are highly motivated and enjoy their work.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

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

	<b>Pupil Outcomes</b>	<b>Leadership &amp; Management</b>	<b>Provision</b>	<b>Overall</b>
<b>Catholic Life</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Religious Education</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>