

DIOCESE OF LEEDS



DIOCESAN BOARD FOR INSPECTIONS

SECTION 48 FINAL REPORT

THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL
AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

ST. ANTHONY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY,
CLAYTON, BRADFORD BD146HW

School URN

107324

School DfE Number

3803333

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Chair of Governors

Mrs. L. Dennison

Headteacher

Mrs. M.T. Bannister

RE Subject Leader

Mrs. C. Foxcroft

Date of Inspection

13th and 14th March 2013

Section 48 Inspector

Mr. David Gott

INSPECTION JUDGEMENTS

Inspection Grades: 1 is Outstanding, 2 is Good, 3 requires improvement in order to be good, 4 is Inadequate

OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS: how effective the school is in providing Catholic Education.

1

The above judgement on overall effectiveness is based on all the available evidence following the evaluation of:

- *Outcomes for pupils,*
- *The provision for Catholic Education*
- *Leaders and Managers*

OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS

1

THE PROVISION FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION

1

LEADERS AND MANAGERS

1

Summary of key findings:

This is an outstanding Catholic School

- St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School, Clayton is outstandingly effective in providing Catholic Education for its pupils. The entire school curriculum is underpinned by, and gives full expression to, Catholic beliefs and values. Strong understanding and knowledge of the Catholic faith permeates all aspects of the day to day life of this high achieving school.
- Collective Worship (CW) is central to the life of this school and is a key part of every school celebration. Parents confirm that the experience of living and working in a praying community has a very positive effect on the development of their children, irrespective of their particular learning needs and/or faith background.
- The majority of the RE teaching is outstanding but it is never less than consistently good.
- The school participates fully in developing and implementing a variety of very effective partnerships – particularly with the Bradford and Keighley Catholic Schools Partnership (BKCSPP), the Diocese of Leeds RE subject leaders meetings/courses at Hinsley Hall and links with Leeds Trinity (for example student teacher placements at the school). Excellent links also exist with a variety of support agencies.
- Despite significant staffing changes since the last S48 Inspection (2007) the governing body have remained true to the school's Foundation Trust Deed and have safeguarded St. Anthony's as a centre of excellence for Catholic Education.
- Staff and pupils are proud of their school; they show high levels of respect towards each other. Pupil behaviour is exemplary.
- Catholic Education at St. Anthony's is very effectively lead and managed by an experienced and hardworking team of headteacher, governors, deputy headteacher and RE subject leader, ably assisted by dedicated and highly skilled teachers, teaching

assistants, administrative and other key support staff who all form a cohesive spiritual entity firmly focused on realising the school's ambitious Mission Statement in the day to day life of this school.

'ENTER TO LEARN, LEARN TO SERVE'.

At St. Anthony's, it is our mission to provide a high quality education, in a Gospel-centred Catholic community, valuing the dignity of the individual and actively promoting inclusive education for all learners.

We strive for excellence in all we do.

At all times the school is to serve as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ

'LET US DO SOMETHING BEAUTIFUL FOR GOD'

What the school needs to do to improve further.

- In order to further drive up standards of teaching and learning across the school, share outstanding classroom teaching and learning practice across all key stages.
- In line with the school's RE Action Plan and recent diocesan guidelines, review the school's existing 'Education for Personal Relationships' policy and practice.
- In partnership with the diocesan RE co-ordinator and BKCSP help to promote good practice in RE across the partnership by devising and trialling new, appropriately challenging and relevant RE Assessment Tasks linked to the diocese approved RE Programme of Study 'The Way, The Truth and the Life'.
- Continue to provide appropriate Continuous Professional Development (CPD) enrichment opportunities in Catholic Education to enable governors and staff (teaching and support) to deepen their knowledge of, and commitment to, the Church's Mission in Education, and in particular their part in helping to realise the school's Mission Statement in the day to day classroom life of the school.
- As part of the school's forthcoming Diamond Jubilee celebrations in 2014 consider creating the provision of a prayer room in a space conducive to quiet reflection.

Information about this inspection

The Inspection of St. Anthony's was carried out under the requirements of the Education Act 2005, and in accordance with the Leeds Diocesan Framework and Schedule for Section 48 Inspections approved by the Diocesan Administrator of Leeds. The inspection reviews and evaluates how effective the school is in providing Catholic education. This process begins with the school's own self-evaluation and the inspection schedule follows the criteria set by the National Board of Religious Inspectors and Advisers (NBRIA 2012).

The inspector reviewed in detail the following aspects:

- How good outcomes are for individuals and groups of pupils at St. Anthony's School.
- The extent to which pupils actively contribute to, and benefit from the Catholic Life of the School.
- The quality of teaching and purposeful pupil learning in RE.
- The quality of Collective Worship.

- The effectiveness of leaders, governors and managers in promoting, monitoring, evaluating and developing Catholic Education at St. Anthony's.

The inspection was carried out by 1 inspector over a 1 ½ day period. A sample of 6 RE lessons and 8 acts of Collective Worship, covering all 3 key stages, were observed in full. This included a CW for staff, and a whole school CW led by Year 6 pupils. Meetings were held with the headteacher, the RE subject leader, staff (teaching and support), governors, parish catechist, parents, pupils and the Parent Involvement Officer. A meeting was also held with the School Council. A very comprehensive range of RE/Catholic Life monitoring and assessment documentation was scrutinised, including, computerised pupil progress and attainment tracking data. Moderated pupil RE work portfolios were scrutinised and a sample of pupil RE workbooks covering all key stages. RE displays in classrooms and public areas of the school were also noted. Headteacher's reports to the governing body, minutes of governors' committee meetings, the school website, school prospectus and school newsletters were also scrutinised. The quality of the school's physical learning environment, together with the range and quality of the school's teaching and learning resources for RE were also assessed. The school's RE budget allocation of £1750 (2012/13) is slightly higher than for other core curriculum areas.

Information about this school

- St. Anthony's Catholic Primary is a heavily oversubscribed, average-sized 1 form entry Voluntary Aided school of the Diocese of Leeds, situated within Bradford Local Authority. The school principally serves the needs of the Catholic families of the parish of St. Anthony of Padua, Clayton, Bradford.
- The published admission number (PAN) is 30 pupils. Currently there are 258 pupils, aged 3-11 years, on roll, taught in 8 classes (including nursery).
- The percentage of baptised Catholic pupils on roll is 63% (including nursery).
- There is a teaching staff of 7 full time and 3 part time teachers (9 full time equivalent). There are 7 f.t.e. Catholic teachers. Nine teachers teach Religious Education (RE). Two teachers hold the Catholic Certificate of Religious Studies (CCRS) or equivalent. No teachers are currently studying for CCRS or equivalent.
- The school generally serves an area of below average deprivation. The majority of pupils are of White British heritage. A growing number of pupils are from other ethnic groups. English is an additional language for a small number of these pupils.
- The proportion of pupils entitled to free school meals is below average. The proportion of pupils with learning difficulties and/or disabilities is below average.
- Early Years Foundation Key Stage (EYFKS) RE baseline assessments indicate that children enter the school with below average age expected recognition and knowledge of basic religious items associated with the Catholic Faith. (For example in September 2012 0% of children could recognise a Bible and only 2 children knew any Bible story). By the end of Year 6 the majority of pupils attain at or above age expected levels in RE.
- The current Headteacher was appointed to the school in January 2012. The RE Subject Leader has held this responsibility since September 2012.
- At the time of this Section 48 Inspection, the school building was undergoing a phased programme of upgrading and remodelling.
- St. Anthony's works in partnership with the Leeds Diocese, The Bradford and Keighley Catholic Schools Partnership, Leeds Diocesan Music Service and 2 Catholic Secondary Schools (St. Joseph's and St. Bede's) to which the majority of Year 6 pupils transfer for their secondary education.

- The school runs before and after school clubs.
- The school is currently consulting on possibly becoming part of a multi academy trust in 2013.
- In 2014 the school will celebrate its Diamond Jubilee.

“If we didn’t forgive when things go wrong the world would be a much worse place.”
(Y4 pupil’s comment when studying the parable of the Good Samaritan)

“Even when the candle goes out, it doesn’t mean that Jesus is not there!”
(Child’s comment to her mother in a conversation at home)

Full report - inspection judgements

Outcomes for individuals and groups of pupils are Outstanding

The extent to which pupils contribute to and benefit from the Catholic life of the school.	1
How well pupils achieve and enjoy their learning in Religious Education.	1
How well pupils respond to and participate in the school’s Collective Worship.	1

“This is a very professional school – we learn a lot here.” (Pupil comment)

- Pupils at St. Anthony’s are proud of their school, their backgrounds and beliefs. They enjoy shaping activities with a religious character in the school and the wider community. They take full advantage of the opportunities the school provides for their personal support and development and for evaluating the Catholic life of the School. Pupils and parents say how much they enjoy participating in parish/school Masses and leading seasonal liturgical celebrations.
- Adults and pupils treat each other with high levels of respect and know acutely that their behaviour always has consequences. Pupils and parents say how much they enjoy and appreciate the ‘Buddy System’ which the school operates, whereby older pupils help younger pupils both in acquiring their basic reading skills and in enjoying their lunchtimes and playtime breaks.
- Pupils are keenly alert to the needs of others and seek justice for all within and beyond the school. The School Council helps to organise school charitable fund raising support for local, national and international charities. For example Cafod, Catholic Care, Candlelighters and St. Peo’s Friary (which helps the homeless in the Bradford area).
- Teacher expectations and pupil standards of achievement in RE are very high. Pupil progress in RE is at least good in each key stage for different groups of pupils and is exemplary in some. By the end of Key Stage 1, 97% of pupils achieve Level 2+ results in RE (with 28% achieving Level 3). By the end of Key Stage 2, 97% of pupils achieve level 4+ in RE (with 30% of pupils achieving Level 5). There is an improving trend of achievement over time in RE in line with, or above other core curriculum areas.
- The diocesan approved RE programme of study ‘The Way, The Truth and the Life’, is already well established at St. Anthony’s. Good planning, monitoring and assessment systems are already in place throughout each key stage to ensure that the learning

needs of individuals and groups of pupils are appropriately met. Consistent marking and assessment procedures (recently revised) ensure that appropriately challenging targets are set. Pupils say that they enjoy their RE lessons and that they are aware of their individual RE targets and 'next steps' in their RE learning journey.

- Evidence from scrutiny of RE workbooks across all Key Stages suggest that the majority of pupils take a pride in the content, presentation and volume of their RE work.
- Similarly from direct lesson observations across all key stages, most pupils concentrate very well on their RE work and are rarely off task in extended periods of individual or group working situations even without direct supervision from the class teacher. Where additional adult support is available it is extremely well targeted to ensure that the specific learning needs of individual pupils are effectively met. Teaching support staff have high levels of expertise and exert an extremely positive impact on pupil outcomes.
- The school's current Education for Personal Relationships Programme (EPR) is run in conjunction with the school's Personal Social Health Education Programme (PSHE) and is due for review in the light of recently issued diocesan guidelines in this area.
- Collective Worship is central to the day to day life of St. Anthony's School. It is a key part of every school celebration. Under the guidance and support of the headteacher and RE subject leader, staff regularly review and plan improvements to the school's provision of CW. Pupils are fully engaged, inspired and respond with enthusiasm and enjoyment which often features drama, poetry, dance, art and music which the pupils themselves have devised. Pupils are becoming more adept in the use of ICT to support CW.
- The involvement and enjoyment of pupils in the prayer life of the school is a feature of their experience from the earliest of years at St. Anthony's School. Pupils regularly prepare and lead worship with confidence and enthusiasm and in a variety of gatherings and settings. Pupils are becoming religiously literate. Parents and pupil survey's consistently return high levels of satisfaction with the RE Catholic Life of the School and Collective Worship in particular.
- All classes have been well resourced with appropriate seasonal RE artefacts contained in a 'worship box'. Staff and pupils supplement these resources by bringing into class items of particular religious significance to themselves and their family.
- Pupils and families of other faith backgrounds are always encouraged to share their beliefs and traditions with the school – particularly at times of religious festivals and celebrations of special significance.
- Pupils and parents say how much they look forward to taking part in CW. Pupils are at ease and act with respect when praying with others. They respond willingly to joining in school prayers and singing hymns.

"I like learning about saints and inspirational people." "RE lessons can be fun."

"I like learning about the Jewish scrolls and other religions – it helps me to understand the world better." (Pupil comments)

The provision for Catholic Education is Outstanding

The quality of teaching and how purposeful learning is in Religious Education.	1
The extent to which the Religious Education curriculum promotes pupils' learning.	1
The quality of Collective Worship provided by the school.	1

"I wanted to help but felt too scared."

(Y6 pupil's comments whilst re enacting his feelings in role play as disciple in the Garden of Gethsemane at the arrest of Jesus.)

"I forgive people who hurt me and those who do wrong."

(Y2 pupils' responses in class discussion about the meaning of the words 'as we forgive those who trespass against us' in the Our Father prayer.)

- A majority of the teaching of RE is outstanding, but it is never less than consistently good. Excellent RE subject knowledge is consistently applied by teachers to both challenge and inspire pupils and ensure that they make exceptional progress as learners. Very good use of 'talk partners' and 'driver words' are evident in most classes.
- RE lessons are given a high profile in the school and are enjoyed by both staff and pupils alike. Lessons are delivered at a good pace and include opportunities for pupils to actively contribute to their own and others learning. A high level of interactive questioning is a strong feature of such lessons. For example the inspector witnessed a lively debate in a Y6 class over the role of Judas in the arrest of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane.
- Assessment opportunities are built in to the RE lessons to ensure that the clear learning objectives and success criteria displayed in class are successfully achieved by all pupils.
- High quality resources, including technology, are employed very effectively – particularly wireless laptops. Pupils are adept at remotely accessing class e-resource files linked to the RE topic of study. Support provided by other adults helps to optimise pupil learning, sustain concentration and contributes to the overall sense of achievement enjoyed by the pupils.
- Teachers provide pupils with detailed feedback both orally and through marking. When asked, pupils knew what their RE targets were and could understand their own individual record sheets on the inside back cover of their RE workbooks. Pupils knew what their 'next steps' were in order to improve further. They appreciated the success criteria 'prompts' which were displayed in various forms around their classrooms.
- Collaboration with other schools, notably those within the BKCS Partnership and the Leeds Diocese, has been used effectively to extend and improve the RE Curriculum for pupils, staff and governors. The diocesan approved RE Scheme 'The Way, The Truth and the Life' is now more fully embedded and used more effectively by all teachers and teaching support staff as a consequence of training and support materials provided by the diocesan RE Co-ordinator.
- The school's RE subject leader regularly attends BKCS and diocesan RE Co-ordinator moderation meetings which help to disseminate identified good practice. Half-termly RE pupil progress and assessment data at St. Anthony's is electronically recorded onto the school's curriculum data base by all class teachers. This information assists staff in setting and reviewing RE targets. Portfolios of samples of levelled RE

work are maintained by the RE subject leader for assessment reference and staff training purposes.

- A good range of RE enrichment activities are provided through the school's RE Curriculum – for example an external art consultant has worked with pupils on RE thematic artwork. Stunning examples of pupils' work, of an extremely high standard, are prominently displayed throughout the school.
- During the summer term, pupils make out of school visits to places of worship of other faiths and visitors from other faiths come into school to explain their faith.
- Year 6 pupils undertake a residential visit to Northumberland which incorporates visiting Lindisfarne (Holy Island) to study the history of the early Christian community there.
- The school is actively participating in celebrating 'The Year of Faith' (instigated by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to mark the 50th anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council 1962-1965 and the 20th anniversary of the publication of the Catechism of the Catholic Church 1992). A central school corridor has specially been designated as a 'Walk of Faith' and features prominent RE displays to support pupils' individual faith journeys. Each class has also decorated its entrance way as a 'Door of Faith' based on a particular RE theme selected by the pupils (e.g. Reception Class have a particularly effective 3D display of 'Jesus the Good Shepherd').
- At the time of the inspection, Pope Francis I was elected and the school was very quick to respond by displaying images of, and prayers for, the new Pope, in classrooms and public areas.
- Considerable effort has been made by the school to incorporate the use of 'prayer journals' into the everyday life of the school. Pupils say how much they enjoy and treasure these books.
- The school's RE curriculum reaches out to strengthen home, school, parish links by providing regular RE Newsletters and 'The Wednesday Word'. The school website has recently been updated. Similarly at appropriate times in the Church's Liturgical Year. 'Travelling Cribs', 'Rosary Prayer Resource Bags' and 'Lenten Prayer Resource Bags' are circulated. Parents are encouraged to take a family photograph of themselves using the resource which their child can then display in class.
- The school is extremely fortunate in having the parish church and the convent of the Franciscan Sisters of Littlehampton located adjacent to the school. Supportive links exist between parish and school which benefit all concerned. Pupils and parents say how much they enjoy and value taking part in Masses and seasonal Liturgical Celebrations held in Church. The Parish Priest and Sisters are very welcome and are frequent visitors to the school. They play a particularly active role in the preparation of pupils for their First Sacraments along with the parish catechists.
- The Sisters offer Year 3 pupils a retreat day experience based at the nearby convent.
- The Parent Friends of the School Association are very proactive in the RE life of the school. They help to welcome parents and families new to the school. They also help to raise funds to support the Student Council's 'wish list' for extra resources.
- Pupils have recently helped to redesign a new school logo and motto which will be used on school uniforms, official letterheads, school indoor and outdoor signage and the school website in time for the school's Diamond Jubilee celebrations next academic year (2013/14).
- As part of a school's RE Curriculum Lenten project the school is supporting the Catholic Association for Overseas Development (CAFOD), 'Hungry for Change' initiative. Pupils are helping to raise funds to buy goats for families in need in underprivileged areas and are studying the economic and humanitarian benefits such goats can provide.
- Resource provision for the RE Curriculum is given high priority at St. Anthony's. Most recently new Catholic Bible's, weekly and daily Missals containing the new translations

of the readings for Mass, have been purchased. Similarly new, child friendly Mass response 'prompt cards' have been purchased to enable pupils to become more familiar with the new responses at Mass. Pupils have learnt to sing the new responses with support from the Diocesan Music Service.

"When Father Pearce holds up the bread he says the exact same words as Jesus did at the Last Supper"

(Y3 pupil using a 'Child's Order of Mass' Prayer card in a lesson and looking at the Eucharistic Prayer of the Mass.)

- All classrooms visited contained well resourced, liturgically correct, colour coded seasonal RE focal points with high quality displays, pupil artwork, and prayers supporting the appropriate 'The Way, The Truth and the Life' year group theme.
- Teachers are passionate to ensure that their pupils have high quality experiences of the Church's rich liturgical life. Staff and pupils have a thorough grasp of the purpose of acts of worship and of the wide variety of forms that this can take. Progression between key stages was observed. The themes chosen by pupils and staff are in accordance with the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Catholic Church.
- Parents and parishioners are always welcome to attend school liturgical celebrations and do so in pleasing numbers. They say how much they enjoy and look forward to participating in the school's seasonal celebratory liturgies. Parents especially welcome the school's frequent RE newsletters, the 'Wednesday Word' and the annual written report on their child's progress in RE.

"My wife and I have also noticed an impressive display of knowledge of other religious faiths by our children."

(Parent's comment)

'Sorry seems to be the hardest word' (Elton John song played in a Reception Class CW)

'I promise to give up Coke Cola for 40 days and 40 nights.'

'My Lenten promise is to try to give up my grandma's homemade omelettes.'

(Y6 'Lenten footprint' prayers)

The Leadership and Management are Outstanding

How well leaders, governors and managers promote, monitor and evaluate the provision for Catholic Education and plan and implement improvement to outcomes for pupils.	1
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"With over 10 years association with St. Anthony's, the past year has seen the most impressive and visible physical representation of the Catholic Ethos in the school."

(Parent's written comment)

- Leaders, governors and managers at St. Anthony's are deeply committed to the Church's Mission in Education. They are energised by the task and are a source of inspiration for the whole community. RE and Catholic life have a very high profile in the

life of this school and have a profound impact on the moral and spiritual development of pupils.

- The governing body are well lead and well organised. They are adept at fulfilling their role of being 'critical friend' and holding the school's senior management team to account. They are skilled in discerning ways of realising their short and long term visions for the school. They have established an effective committee structure and are fully involved in the life of the school. All canonical and statutory responsibilities are fulfilled.
- Leadership of RE is informed by a high level of expertise and vision focused relentlessly on improving teaching and learning, resulting in RE teaching that is at least consistently good or better.
- The Headteacher, senior management team, RE governor and RE subject leader have brought their considerable experience together to systemically monitor and evaluate the school's effectiveness in providing Catholic Education. This inspection finds the school's own self evaluation systems and assessments to be secure and accurate (if overly modest in some areas) in identifying strengths. Areas for further development have already been captured in a robust and very comprehensive RE School Action Plan which is currently being diligently worked through. Appropriate milestones and success criteria are clearly identified with progress currently on track. Areas for further development are also incorporated into the school's 'Performance Management' system.
- Leaders, governors, managers and staff at all levels lead by example and are good role models. Parents and pupils comment very positively about the strong feeling of 'belonging to the family of St. Anthony's'. Similarly parents and pupils new to the school voiced their appreciation of the welcome they received. They particularly enjoy the 'buddy system' which the school operates, whereby the older pupils support younger ones in their reading skills and at playtimes and lunchtimes. Pupils say that they have lots of friends at the school and that they feel safe and well cared for at St. Anthony's. The social and pastoral support work carried out by the Parental Involvement Officer is invaluable in promoting pupil well being and maintaining meaningful home, school, and parish links.
- Effective pupil data management systems are in place for tracking individuals and groups of pupils' progress in RE. Half termly pupil progress review meetings are held to ensure that all pupils are having their learning needs met and that expected progress or above is being made.
- There is a sense of high morale and 'forward thinking' about the RE/Catholic Life of this school. Staff are visibly *pro-active* rather than *re-active* in suggesting and bringing about improvements in this key area of teaching and learning.
- Staff, parents and pupils are most appreciative of the recent improvements to the school building, grounds and overall learning environment. The spiritual life of the school would benefit even further from the creation of a prayer room. Pupils' excellent RE work could form a backdrop to voluntary acts of reflective worship on a more extended basis than is possible at present in the busy main school hall, gymnasium, canteen dining room. Plans are already in hand for the reinstatement of the outdoor Rosary Walk to coincide with the school's Diamond Jubilee celebrations.
- Scrutiny of the school's Continuous Professional Development (CPD) records shows that leaders provide training and development opportunities for staff and governors in RE/Catholic Life. This is often run in conjunction with BKCSPP and Hinsley Hall.
- Symbols and Icons of the Catholic faith are prominently manifest both externally and internally on the school premises and proudly proclaim the sacredness of this high achieving learning environment.
- The RE Curriculum fully meets the Bishops' requirements (RE Curriculum Directory 2012) and is responsive to diocesan requirements. The school is innovative in the

manner in which it presents the RE curriculum as **the** core subject of all that the school seeks to achieve in all other areas of the school curriculum.

Pupils truly '**Enter to Learn, Learn to Serve**'
at St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School, Clayton.

Example of prayer poem composed by a pupil in response to studying a thematic poster on the theme of 'pleading':

*' I felt confused, I didn't know where to turn
I pleaded to God I needed to learn
I needed forgiveness for what I had done
His actions were fast and very sudden
I showed him my guilt, then began to pray
God opened the heavens then began to say
"Your sins are forgiven you must see
Stay by my side and follow me." '*