



Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Specialist Maths and Computing College

Headteacher: Mrs J Warburton

22 March 2016

Dear Parents/Carers

Ofsted Inspection – March 2016

Cardinal Newman is a **GOOD** school

As you will know the school received an inspection by Ofsted on 3 – 4 March 2016.

We have now received the inspection report and I am pleased to share with you the main points of the inspectors' findings. The full report can be accessed at www.cardinal-newman.org.

The inspectors spent two days in the school and carried out 37 part lesson observations as well as a range of meetings with students, staff and governors.

In their report the inspectors recognise that:

- ***Pupils' achievement has improved since the previous inspection. They make good progress in the majority of subjects, including English and Mathematics.***
- ***Pupils' enjoy school because they feel safe and are confident that teachers care about them and will do their best to help them.***
- ***Behaviour around school and in lessons is typically good. Pupils' are polite, wear their school uniform with pride and respond quickly to teachers' instructions.***
- ***Since the previous inspection, the governors have taken significant steps to increase their effectiveness. They make an effective contribution to improving the quality of the school's work.***

The leadership and management was judged as 'good'. They noted that:

- ***Leaders and governors consider a wide range of detailed information to check how well the school is doing. Achievement and the quality of teaching have improved since the last inspection.***
- ***Senior leaders meet middle leaders regularly and challenge and hold them to account for progress in their subjects and set targets for improvement. This has led to improvements in teaching and achievement in a number of subjects.***
- ***Pupils study a broad range of subjects, a number of which are supported by extra-curricular study clubs. Pupils' learning is further enriched by a wide range of additional activities including reading and chess clubs in the Library, visits – to theatre productions for example, music and sporting fixtures. Opportunities for pupils to develop their spiritual, moral, social and cultural awareness are promoted strongly through personal, social, health and economics, citizenship and religious education lessons. These contribute to pupils being well prepared for life in modern Britain.***
- ***Pupils are well cared for so that any barriers to success are removed. Pupils say that all pupils are welcomed into the school and valued equally, and that prejudice of any sort is not tolerated.***



- ***Since the previous inspection governors have taken robust steps to address the areas of weakness identified in their practice. The governing body is now knowledgeable and supportive.***

Personal development, behaviour and welfare was judged to be good. The inspectors praised the pupils' behaviour and noted that they:

- ***Were all very approachable and willing to talk about their school and all talked about it with pride. They are also proud of their appearance and all of them look very smart in their school uniforms.***
- ***Pupils report that the school community is welcoming and harmonious and that all people are valued regardless of gender, ethnicity or sexual orientation. They say that there is no tolerance at all of any prejudice-based behaviour.***
- ***Pupils conduct themselves well both in and out of lessons and respond very quickly when told what to do.***

The quality of teaching, learning and assessment was judged to be good. They noted that:

- ***The quality of teaching, learning and assessment is typically good.***
- ***Relationships between pupils and teachers are good, so pupils feel well supported in their work, are confident to take part in lessons and want to do their best.***
- ***Teachers are very enthusiastic, have good subject knowledge and know what pupils need to learn in order to be successful.***

Outcomes for pupils was judged as good. They acknowledged that in:

- ***2015 the proportion of pupils who attained five good GCSE's including English and Mathematics was above average. This represented good progress from pupils' average starting points on entry to the school.***
- ***The school's tracking data shows that pupils currently in key Stage 4 are typically making good progress in most subjects and that standards are on track to remain above average.***

The overall judgement for the school is '**GOOD**', Ofsted have confirmed what we believe that Cardinal Newman Catholic High School is a good school. However the report contains a section on what the school can do to become outstanding.

The inspectors identified four areas for the school to improve further, which we had identified as part of the school development plan. The areas were improve progress, particularly at Key Stage 3 and in humanities; share best practice in teaching, offering a good level of challenge to all students; improve attendance and monitor the quality of teaching and assessment more rigorously and accurately.

I would like to thank our parents and carers for your support shown during the recent inspection. This level of support gives us the confidence and encouragement we need to continue to provide a '**GOOD**' education for all of our students.

I sincerely hope when you read the report you have a sense of pride in our school just as we do.

Yours sincerely



J WARBURTON
Headteacher