



Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Specialist Maths and Computing College

Headteacher: Mrs J Warburton

11 November 2015

Dear Parents/Carers

'Good News'

Recently we have had a Section 48 Inspection carried out by the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The overall judgement we achieved was 'Good' which confirms what we know, that Cardinal Newman is a good Catholic school. I have attached a summary of the report but if you would like to read it in full please go to our website www.cardinal-newman.org.uk

This September we launched the facility pay online for school meals, visits etc. This is a simple and secure way of putting money on to your son or daughter's account or paying for a school visit. Go to the school's website and on the Home page go to 'Quick Links' and click on 'Online Payments' (New!) this will take you to 'Schoolgateway' and then you can register.

May I take this opportunity to remind you that students should not wear 'Hoodies' whilst travelling to and from school. A plain dark coloured anorak or top coat may be worn outdoors for winter.

I thank you for your support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

J WARBURTON
Headteacher



Cardinal Newman Catholic High School

Section 48 Inspection October 2015

Report Summary

Pupils are very happy at the school and proud to belong to what they perceive as a supportive and productive environment. They are appreciative of all that is being done on their behalf. They act responsibly and participate constructively in the Catholic life of the school beyond the taught curriculum. They are given time and opportunity to reflect upon the religious nature of the school and the importance of religious faith in people's lives. Within the school day pupils pray, reflect and evaluate, with many examples of integration of moral and social issues with religious reflection.

Some of the pupils are increasingly active within their parishes. One of the local churches is a major asset for the school's celebration of liturgical events and this parish is developing a revised strategy with the school for the Confirmation programme. The pupils show interest in the religious life of others and treat those of different beliefs with respect.

Pupils behave well in all areas of school life and respect each other's views and show care and consideration to those in need, whether in school, the local community, or the wider world. They are very committed to charities, both in terms of fundraising and awareness raising, as exemplified by the fortnightly 'Go Green' initiative which focuses on social and ethical issues.

Pupils' appreciation of the religious life of the school is stimulated and supported by displays of religious and other relevant quotations and imagery, along with pupils' work, all of which contribute to a productive environment. The school achieves one of its key aims in 'providing a caring and welcoming school based on Christian morals and values that safeguards and promotes the welfare of all.'

Pupils respond with respect and reverence when worshipping and praying and there are some outstanding examples of participation and ownership. They listen well and relate much of their prayer and reflection to the needs of local and wider communities and service to others.

The school's pupil- driven chaplaincy group provides a very positive commitment to pupil ownership and will increasingly impact upon the spiritual life of the school as it gains more members.

The Headteacher, supported by governors and other leaders and managers has made the religious life of the school a cornerstone of the very successful rebuilding of morale and confidence after challenging times. The leaders, governors and managers are actively engaged in developmental planning and monitoring which fully integrates all aspects of the school's religious life into the process.

Leaders, managers and governors are very committed to providing high quality religious education and raising levels of examination performance. They monitor the provision for religious education and have established a range of processes which provide a firm basis for appropriate diagnosis of strengths and areas for development

All teaching observed was good with some evidence of outstanding classroom practice at KS3 which showed pupils were excited by their learning. The teachers all have a strong subject knowledge. All of the lessons are well planned using a variety of teaching and learning techniques and imaginative resources which keep the pupils focused. Lessons were planned to meet the needs of individual students. Pupil Progress within lessons is at least good. Where progress is most significant pupils work collaboratively and take more responsibility for their own learning.

The quality of Collective Worship is good with many outstanding features and only requires more consistency in form-based prayer to be judged outstanding overall. Acts of Collective Worship are given high profile and are well delivered with expertise by staff, visitors and local parish priest, with regular ownership and participation of pupils. Staff and pupils are comfortable praying together.

The full report can be viewed on our website www.cardinal-newman.org.uk