



Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Flood

English Martyrs Catholic Primary School, a Voluntary Academy
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18th October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

OFSTED Inspection 20-21st September 2017

As you are aware, the Office of Standards in Education (OFSTED) inspected our school on the 20th and 21st September 2017, a copy of the inspection report has now been received and is attached for your perusal. A copy of the report will be published on the OFSTED website shortly and a link to the site will be available on our school website.

We are delighted that the report recognizes that pupils are happy, feel safe, know they can turn to an adult for support and enjoy a broad and balanced curriculum. In addition, that provision and standards in the early years are good because children make good progress from their starting points.

As you will see, some areas in school require improvement before we can return to a judgement of 'good'. We have already taken steps to address some of the issues raised and will continue to respond to the recommendations to ensure that English Martyrs returns to a good judgement as soon as possible.

The steps taken to address the areas for improvement are as follows;

Pupil Progress

- The successful actions taken to sustain outcomes in line with National averages for Key Stage 1, including phonics, Foundation Stage and improve outcomes seen across other subjects in Key Stage 2 in 2017, will now be rolled out to target learning in reading.
- Staff have been reminded of the requirement to follow the school's policy with regard to teaching, learning and assessment. Our acknowledged strong appraisal processes will be used to iron out any inconsistencies in practice.
- The report acknowledges that where the needs of the children are clearly identified and staff are well briefed, the pupils with SEND make very good progress. We are committed therefore, to ensuring that our high quality professional development and training continues and is extended so that all staff linked to children with special needs ensure progress is consistently good.
- Data tracking systems have been reviewed to ensure that staff match learning activities to the individual starting points and abilities of all children.





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Behaviour

- The report states that the majority of pupils behave well - this is a direct result of your positive engagement with us to resolve situations. School recognizes bullying (repeatedly targeting of one child by another) can occur. However, we do everything in our power to address it and resolve the situation. It was recognized that this work is successful as pupils feel safe and they know who to speak to if they have concerns. The inspectors observed appropriate and positive play during playtimes and pupils behaved well in the classroom. However, as it was identified that a small minority of children behaved inappropriately at playtimes, all staff have been reminded of the school policy requirements to ensure that prompt intervention and high expectations of behaviour are maintained.
- The grounds are being improved to create a high quality outdoor environment with new playground equipment and markings in which our children can thrive and enjoy playing together.

Attendance

- We are continuing to work with you to raise the profile of the importance of attending school every day. Parents have been contacted if their child's attendance is falling below national averages and already this is having a positive effect – last week every class had above National average attendance.
- The report acknowledges that a high proportion of children with medical needs are having an impact on the school's attendance rates. Our safeguarding and welfare officer will continue her excellent work in supporting those families in need of help and support.

We are committed to building upon the many strengths identified during the inspection, whilst continually addressing the areas that require improvement. We ask that you support school by ensuring your child behaves well and attends school daily and on time. With your continued support we will, I am sure, secure a 'good' judgement in the very near future.

Yours in continued partnership
C. M. Flood
Headteacher