

ST. ANNE'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION SUBJECT LEADER'S REPORT FOR GOVERNORS

OCTOBER 2018

VISION FOR RE

St Anne's is a school with a strong Catholic ethos, which nurtures and promotes care and compassion for each other. We teach, model and embrace the key values of love and respect for others, respect for different faiths and cultures, ensuring all members of the school community have a voice. The school is rich in diversity. The Gospel values espoused by Jesus underpin the children's development spiritually, emotionally, socially and academically.

PLANNING

The 'Come and See' scheme of work is used from Nursery to Y6. 'Come and See' is a comprehensive scheme with lots of background notes and information relating to theology and church organisation. It also references scripture and opportunities for SMSC. It identifies levelled activities and tasks. We also use Caritas, to provide materials for themed days about Catholic social teaching. Ten Ten resources and the Wednesday Word are used for assemblies and collective worship. Please see the long term plan at the end of this report detailing the topics taught. Other faiths are covered through the 'Come and See' Curriculum.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

There were two dedicated INSETs – RE teaching and RE book scrutiny. Two NQTs attended the Diocesan NQT programme last year. I attended Building the Kingdom meetings throughout the year.

ASSESSMENT

Pupils are assessed termly by completing levelled tasks relating to the Come and See programme. Results in RE have been compared with writing results. With the exception of one class the percentage on track for RE either matches or surpasses the writing percentage. This is pleasing as it shows that most children are able to express their thoughts confidently in the written form and there has been a clear transfer of skills. The 'Big Questions' approach to each topic was popular with children and teachers alike. Children referred to the 'Big Question' throughout the unit of work and were able to acknowledge when their views or understanding changed.

COLLECTION OF EVIDENCE

Work scrutinies and pupil voice activities were carried out throughout the year. The volume of work produced in RE lessons compared favourably with literacy lessons. Questioning and discussion was used effectively to enable children to articulate their thoughts. Differentiation was used effectively to produce deeper learning. Children were confident when talking about their work and took pride in it.

WORSHIP

- Collective Worship – all classes have collective worship on Tuesday mornings. In KS2 the pupils themselves prepare and lead the worship. All children are respectful at these times and recognise it as a time to become close to God.
- Mass – children from Y1 to Y6 attend Mass in church each week with classes from Y1 planning and leading the Masses. This is very much part of our identity as a Catholic school

to teach the children about the importance of Mass and Catholic traditions and practices. We would welcome more parents at the Masses.

- Assemblies – I lead the whole school Monday assemblies which are usually scripture based unless we have a visiting speaker. The children are attentive and interested and always impress me with their answers to questions demonstrating a strong understanding of their faith. Some parents attend the Friday assemblies which are led by individual classes on alternate weeks. This year a few more have attended to see their child receive a class award or to watch a particular class assembly.

CHAPLAINCY

Just Youth continue to work in school every Tuesday. They spent time in Y1 to Y5 and EYFS/Y6 on alternate weeks. They also helped Y3 prepare for the Sacramental Programme and held retreats for children in Y4 to Y6 at the Spiritan Centre in Salford. The Just Youth mission was held just before Advent but unfortunately the end of mission mass was not attended by any parent. We hope to improve on this at next year's mission.

The GIFT team led assemblies, masses, worked in classes during Advent and Lent and led a saints club. They also led charity initiatives such as the Harvest Assembly collection. They also worked with Just Youth on a rota basis and said they felt more confident when speaking to their peers in class activities as a result of this.

RE INSPECTION

The judgement overall was Good with the quality of Catholic leadership and the Catholic life of the school deemed to be Outstanding.

The key strengths of the school included:

- The Catholic life of the school where every child is given every chance and is treated with love, dignity and respect.
- Delightful children who articulate their pride and joy in attending St Anne's with great affection.
- Outstanding leadership, including governance, which has protected St Anne's in times of challenge and change.
- The school's sense of community whereby every person is valued and welcomed as a child of God.

The inspectors said they were 'blown away' by pupils' responses to questions and though verbally they displayed excellent knowledge and understanding.

The areas for development are:

- To enhance further the quality of children's work by raising expectations of what children can consistently achieve and so that outstanding work is celebrated and modelled for all to witness.
- To extend the school's provision in Worship to include regular, child led, contemplative and meditative prayer.
- To create a more celebratory learning environment.

The points above will form part of the action plan for RE next year.

ACTIONS FOR 2018/2019

- To implement the new assessment procedures from Salford Diocese.
- To give the children more opportunities for meditative prayer.
- To match written work to pupils' knowledge and understanding particularly at the higher standard.

