

**Catholic Diocese of Northampton**  
**Interim Monitoring Visit Report**  
**2 July 2019**  
**St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Northampton**  
**[URN 122038]**

Since the last Section 48 inspection there have been significant changes to leadership and teaching staff. The current headteacher has been in post for almost 3 years. She is passionate about Catholic education and has created a vibrant, open and welcoming school which is highly supported by staff, parents and governors. The headteacher is very enthusiastic and full of wonderful ideas. Staff describe her as inspirational. A great strength of the school is the quality of the relationships between pupils, staff and parents which is excellent. The school is a very happy one. The parish priest is a regular visitor to the school. Relationships between the school and parish are greatly improved. The headteacher has appointed and cultivated Catholic teaching staff. Staff are supportive of change and are dedicated to moving the school forward.

The headteacher and RE lead have a clear vision and a shared passion to provide a Catholic school that not only provides outstanding teaching and learning but one that has Christ at the centre of all they do.

The school mission statement has been reviewed and replaced with one agreed by all stakeholders – “Walking together in the light of the Lord”. The mission statement is known by all and is clearly lived out day to day in the school community.

The school RE SEF is up to date and gives an accurate picture of the school's strengths and current areas for development. The school self-evaluation has graded themselves as outstanding; I would concur with this.

The Catholic life of the school is outstanding. The school chaplain is very experienced and highly committed to nurturing the spiritual needs of pupils, staff and parents. The Emmaus room is a well used resource area with staff and pupils participating in prayer and reflection on a regular basis.

The behaviour of the pupils is very good. During the learning walk and in assembly the pupils were highly engaged in their learning, demonstrating enthusiasm and reverence. Pupils know they are loved, respected and valued as individuals. They feel valued and know they are listened to. Pupils willingly participate in all of the many varied experiences the school has to offer. The headteacher has successfully rebuilt and raised the Catholic ethos of the school. The profile of the school has been raised in the local community through mission weeks and working with a variety of places (hospital, care home, charities) in the wider community.

Pupils' books confirm good progress. Staff are now working to ensure consistent marking and presentation across the school. Training for the new assessment end of year expectations has been implemented and the school is now in a position to fully implement this in September. Robust monitoring and evaluation information shows the school gives RE teaching and learning high status. Pupils' books confirm this as there is quality work; the quantity of work shows good progress over time. Pupil progress data, as indicated in school assessments, shows that pupils make the same good progress in RE as they do in other core subjects.

#### **Areas for further development**

- Ensure marking and presentation of pupils' work is consistent across the school