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"With Jesus as our guide; we live, love and learn together."

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017

Dear Parents

### JANUARY 2017 OFSTED REPORT: 'GOOD'

You will already be aware that our school was inspected by OFSTED on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> January. I am writing to inform you of the overall inspection judgement and summarise some of its findings.

I am very pleased to be able to inform you that Holy Name was judged to be a **GOOD** school **overall** and in **all areas** of the inspection report.

The pupils, staff and governors of the school have worked extremely hard to improve our school and this very positive report acknowledges the impact of this work. We can all be very proud of what has been written about our school.

Some of the key findings include:

- Clear, focused and determined leadership by the headteacher, ably assisted by the deputy headteacher, has led to rapid improvement across the school. Staff morale is high. The headteacher has successfully developed a culture of high expectations and ambition. As a result, the quality of teaching and pupils' outcomes have improved since the last inspection and are now good.
- The headteacher and leaders have successfully addressed the underachievement of pupils since the last inspection following a number of staff changes. An increasing number of pupils are working at, or moving towards, the higher standards in key stage 1 and 2 in reading, writing and mathematics. This prepares them well for secondary school.
- The headteacher and subject leaders work in close collaboration with one another. As a result, the progress pupils make is carefully tracked. Any additional barriers to learning are quickly identified and tackled. This means that pupils achieve well, irrespective of their backgrounds or starting points.
- The headteacher has ensured that all staff and governors have read and acted on the latest guidance on keeping children safe in education. There is a very tangible sense of a strong safeguarding culture, which is evidenced by the level of care that staff demonstrate towards pupils and the clear trust that pupils have in the adults who look after them.
- There have been significant improvements since the previous inspection to the quality of teaching, learning and assessment across the whole of the school and it is now consistently good. Weak teaching has been swiftly tackled. This has led to most pupils across the school making good progress from their different starting points.
- The most able, including the most able disadvantaged pupils, are making good progress. From their starting points, work in books shows they are reaching higher than age-related standards in reading, writing and mathematics as they move through the school.

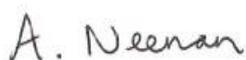
- The progress of pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities is carefully checked by leaders. The special educational needs coordinator uses the extra funding efficiently to ensure the individual pupils' learning needs are met by adapting resources to meet their needs. As a consequence, they achieve well.
- The behaviour of pupils is good. The school has a calm and orderly atmosphere. Pupils are polite and well mannered, holding doors open for adults and each other and generally showing consideration for one another. All the pupils the inspectors spoke to said that behaviour was good.
- Pupils know about the different types of bullying, including cyber bullying and homophobic bullying. Pupils say that bullying is rare and if they have any concerns they are dealt with quickly.
- The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good. Pupils are confident learners, well equipped for their lessons, and settle quickly to their work. They rise well to challenge and persevere even when they are finding activities difficult.
- The leadership of the early years is effective. Staff work collaboratively across the Nursery and Reception settings and ensure that the quality of provision is of a consistently good standard. As a result, children, including those who are disadvantaged, make good progress from their various starting points.
- Throughout the school, a committed and highly effective team of teaching assistants very ably support teachers. They make an extremely valuable contribution to the quality of teaching and learning and in improving pupils' progress.
- The governing body is well informed of the school's work and provides good levels of support and challenge. Governors are committed and ambitious for the school to continue to improve outcomes for pupils.

The report has been uploaded to the school website for you to read today. It will be on the OFSTED website on Thursday 16th February.

If you wish to read a hard copy of the inspection report, please contact the school office where a copy will be made available for you to read in school.

On behalf of the school's governing body I would like to thank our pupils and staff for their hard work and the support that you, as parents, provide to us.

Yours sincerely



Mr A. G. Neenan

Headteacher