



September 2026

Letter to Parents – Catholic Schools Inspectorate Inspection

Dear Parents and Carers,

A Wonderful Recognition of St Anne's Catholic Primary School.

I am delighted to share with you the report from our recent **Catholic Schools Inspectorate (CSI) inspection**, which took place on 8–9 July 2026.

We are incredibly proud of the report and the very positive recognition it gives to our school, our children, our staff, our governors and our wonderful wider community.

The inspection team recognised that **St Anne's is a thriving Catholic school where pupils are at the heart of all that we do**. This is a particularly meaningful statement for us because our children are the reason we are here, and everything we strive to achieve is rooted in helping them to flourish, feel valued and know that they are loved.

The report judged our **Catholic Life and Mission as Outstanding (Grade 1)**, with Outstanding judgements for both the provision and leadership of this important aspect of school life. The inspectors recognised the strength of our Catholic identity and the way in which our mission statement, **“Let the light of Christ shine in our school,”** is genuinely lived by our whole community.

The report describes St Anne's as a **“happy, vibrant place”** where behaviour is exemplary and pupils flourish. It particularly celebrates the exceptional pastoral care provided to our children and families and our commitment to supporting those who may be most vulnerable or in need.

The inspectors also highlighted the strong relationships within our community, our welcoming environment and the way in which we put our faith into action. From charitable activities and visits to the care home, to our support for families and our links with other faith communities, the report recognises the many ways our children learn to live out the Gospel message of loving our neighbour. Another significant strength identified was our **thriving partnership with our parish**. Our shared prayer, Masses, celebrations and sacramental life are an important part of what makes St Anne's such a special community. It was wonderful to see the inspectors recognise the growing engagement of our parents and families in the life of the school and parish.

The inspection also recognised **inspirational leadership**, noting that it has helped the school to thrive, with everyone embracing a clear and focused vision. This is a wonderful reflection of the commitment and dedication of our staff, governors and parish partners.



Our **Religious Education provision was judged Good (Grade 2)**, with **Outstanding leadership**. The inspectors recognised that pupils make good progress, achieve well and produce high-quality work. They praised the confidence and subject knowledge of our teachers, the quality of resources and the strong vision and leadership of our Religious Education team.

Our **Collective Worship was also judged Good (Grade 2)**, with **Outstanding leadership**. The inspectors highlighted the varied and engaging opportunities for prayer and liturgy across the school, the strong participation of our pupils and the way prayer naturally permeates daily life at St Anne's. Importantly, the report confirms that the school is **fully compliant with the requirements of the Bishops' Conference and the additional requirements of the Diocese**, and that we have **fully responded to the areas for improvement identified at our previous inspection**.

There are, of course, some areas identified for us to continue developing. These include creating further dedicated prayer spaces, providing even more creative opportunities for independent learning in Religious Education, and giving our pupils increased responsibility in planning, preparing and leading prayer and liturgy. We welcome these recommendations because they give us clear opportunities to build upon the many strengths already recognised.

Above all, however, this report is a wonderful affirmation of **what makes St Anne's special**. It recognises a school where children are loved and cared for, where faith is lived rather than simply taught, where families are welcomed, where pupils are encouraged to serve others, and where Christ truly is at the heart of our community.

I would like to thank our **amazing staff** for their dedication and hard work, our **governors** for their commitment and support, our **parish and clergy** for their partnership, and, most importantly, our **children**, whose kindness, enthusiasm, faith and wonderful personalities make St Anne's the special place that it is.

I would also like to thank **you, our parents and carers**, for your continued support. The inspectors recognised the growing engagement of our families, and this is something we value enormously. Your partnership with us makes such a difference to the lives of our children.

We should all feel **enormously proud of this report and of our school community**. It is a recognition not only of where St Anne's is today, but of the shared commitment that will enable us to continue to grow and flourish.

Thank you for helping us to ensure that, together, **we continue to let the light of Christ shine in our school**.

With very best wishes,

Peter Hilton
Executive Headteacher
St Anne's Catholic Primary School

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