



DIOCESE OF  
SHREWSBURY

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## REPORT ON THE MONITORING INSPECTION OF OUTSTANDING SCHOOLS

### THE CATHOLIC LIFE OF THE SCHOOL AND RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

School:	Our Lady of Pity Catholic Primary School
Address:	Rigby Drive Greasby CH49 1RE
Tel No:	0151 677 6262
URN:	105083
Headteacher:	Mr M Cotton
Chair of Governors:	Rev M Lester
Date of Inspection:	10 March 2015
Inspectors:	Mrs E Inman

Our Lady of Pity Catholic Primary School is a highly effective Catholic Primary School. The school's Catholic mission is at the heart of all that it does. Pupils, parents and staff are proud to be part of this aspirational, high achieving school. One pupil said, 'We go deeper,' and this view was echoed around the group being interviewed. The school has prioritised ongoing improvement to the prayer life of the school.

All groups of pupils achieve well in Religious Education. They show outstanding depth of understanding and leadership through religious activities which are driven by an immersive approach to learning. Pupils make connections between what they have learned through scripture and real life issues. For example, pupils linked the leadership challenges encountered by Moses with those experienced by political leaders today.

The Religious Education curriculum addresses the learning needs of all pupils. Topics are presented to pupils before detailed plans are prepared by teachers. This enables pupils to shape their own learning, striving for a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith. Teachers' subject knowledge is secure, so they are able to capitalise on the pupils' suggestions, leading to well-planned and engaging learning activities. Because pupils are engaged in planning, they have a deeper understanding of their learning and are able to generalise concepts more fluently. They are articulate and the quality of their questioning is outstanding.

Leaders and managers, at all levels, are deeply committed to the mission of the Church in education. Their practical support for a Diocesan school, which has experienced difficulties, is an excellent example of their outreach work, with a senior leader deployed as Acting Headteacher for part of the week and other staff working alongside as Specialist Leaders of Education.

#### **Improvement since the last inspection**

- The assessment of Religious Education is now embedded.
- The monitoring and evaluation of Religious Education is now conducted with the same rigour as other curriculum areas.

#### **Next steps**

As a highly successful school, the school should be more explicit in articulating the distinctiveness of its Catholic identity both within the Diocesan family of schools and in the wider community