



# ST MARY'S

## CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL LEYLAND

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to announce that following our recent Catholic School Inspection, St Mary's continues to be a 'Good' school. This judgement was reached after a 2-day inspection on 13 & 14 March.

This outcome is testament to the tireless efforts of all staff and governors, but especially our Religious Studies team and our Chaplain, Anthony. In addition, your parental contribution as first educators in the faith, coupled with the enthusiasm pupils demonstrate for the faith life here at St Mary's, cannot be underestimated. We very much appreciate all that you do, and hope that you can recognise the school you know in this report.

This outcome demonstrates how St Mary's continues to thrive since its last Catholic School Inspection in June 2016. Back then, the school was unable to secure any Outstanding verdicts. This report highlights 7 out of 9 areas as being Outstanding, with both *Catholic Life and Mission* and *Collective Worship* recognised as Outstanding overall.

The full report is attached and will also be available via the school, diocesan and Catholic Education Services websites early next week. Extracts from the report include comments such as:

- *'Community, inclusivity and belonging are hallmarks of the school, making it a genuine family of faith'*
- *'Chaplaincy is the beating heart of the school'*
- *'It is a happy community. Students say 'We all feel like a family' and feel valued and respected'*
- *'Students concentrate in lessons, producing work in well organised books, while being encouraged to aim high. They enjoy learning and behaviour is respectful and polite'*
- *'Staff are impressive role models to the young people in their care, and pastoral care is expert, committed and well organised'*
- *'Teachers in the religious education department are confident in their subject knowledge and teaching and learning skills'*
- *'Parents are central to the school's life and surveys reveal an overwhelmingly positive view from parents of the care and education their children receive'*
- *'Excellent links with the local parish church build on the Benedictine years'*

I would urge you to read the full report as it presents a glowing picture of St Mary's, with some very achievable aims to improve even further. May I take this opportunity to thank all the parents and carers who took the time to complete the parent questionnaire, and to you all for your continued support of what we do here at St Mary's, it is very much respected.

Mr P Thompson

Headteacher

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

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