

**ST. EDMUND ARROWSMITH R.C. HIGH SCHOOL  
ASHTON-IN-MAKERFIELD**

**INSPECTED:** 19-20 March 1996

**INSPECTORS:** Rev. Desmond Seddon Miss Barbara Hunt

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**SUMMARY OF THE RELIGIOUS EDUCATION INSPECTION REPORT**

*This is a summary of the Inspectors' full report which can be obtained from the school.*

**INSPECTION FINDINGS**

This is a very good school with a Mission Statement which finds expression in its daily life, especially in the relationships that are based on the values of "care and respect". The Mission Statement is used in planning and evaluation. There is a need to develop practical objectives to match the six school aims which will enable the school to assess more fully the effectiveness of the Mission Statement.

There is a working group with responsibility for Collective Worship which has provided very good documentation outlining the principles of quality Collective Worship. These principles are seen particularly in year assemblies. The formal policy is now ready for ratification by the governors. Inservice is needed for the form tutors to explore the principles of quality Collective Worship and implement this in the form registration period for their pupils.

The Religious Education Department is well managed and composed of 8 members of staff who are committed and dedicated to delivering quality Religious Education. The Department has produced a very good Handbook which can continue to be developed especially with regard to the Scheme of Work at Key Stage 3 (Years 7, 8 and 9). All the Schemes of Work are in line with Archdiocesan policy.

The quality of learning and teaching in 100% of lessons observed is sound or better with 53% having particularly good or very good features. In order to improve the G.C.S.E. Religious Studies examination results, the school needs to continue to target specific pupils and provide the necessary support they require.

## BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCHOOL

### PUPILS:

Total number of pupils: 1132  
Number of Catholic pupils: All pupils  
Number of pupils for each local parish:

St. Oswald's (Ashton)	237
English Martyrs (Haydock)	184
St. Wilfrid's (Stubshaw Cross)	63
Our Lady's (Bryn)	154
Holy Family (Platt Bridge)	156
Sacred Heart (Hindley Green)	105
St. Benedict (Hindley)	82
Other parishes	<u>151</u>
Total	1132

Percentage of pupils from other Christian traditions: 0

### TEACHERS

Full-time Religious Education teachers: 3  
Part-time Religious Education teachers: 5 (4 Specialist teachers)

Proportion of Catholic teachers in whole school: 77%

### TOTAL R.E. TEACHING TIME PER WEEK

		Hours	Mins
Key Stage 3:	Years 7 & 8	2	30
	Year 9	1	40
Key Stage 4:		2	30

### PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL TEACHING TIME PER WEEK SPENT ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Key Stage 3:	Years 7 & 8	10%
	Year 9	7%
Key Stage 4:		10%

Bishops' Conference recommendation 10%

## THE RESULTS OF PUBLIC EXAMINATIONS

### G.C.S.E. RELIGIOUS STUDIES (Year 11)

Total entries 1994: 199

Total entries 1995: 237

1994	A*	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	U	N/A
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Entries 199

Boys 84	4	10	11	13	10	11	13	11	1	0
Girls 115	8	12	28	18	13	13	17	5	1	0

1994 A-C 52.3% (National 56.9%)

1995

Entries 237

Boys 108	5	6	18	22	23	13	15	5	0	1
Girls 129	9	22	23	21	24	16	7	3	2	2

1995 A-C 53.2% (National 57%)

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Expenditure for major curriculum areas 1995/6

	TOTAL	1994/5 TOTAL (£)	1994/5 PER PUPIL (£)
Religious Education	5905	2068	1.76
English	7606	4008	3.41
Mathematics	11024	2362	2.01
Science	12065	4983	4.24

## **RECORD OF THE EVIDENCE BASE OF THE INSPECTION**

The team consisted of two inspectors. During the inspection, 17 Religious Education lessons, 2 registration sessions and 2 year assemblies were observed. A total number of 8 teachers and one student were seen teaching at least once (all the Religious Education teachers). Samples of pupils' work were looked at and pupils' work was observed during lessons. Discussions were held during the inspection with the Headteacher and the Head of Religious Education. Representative groups of pupils across the age range were interviewed and informal discussions took place outside the lessons. The large amount of documentation provided by the school was analysed before and during the inspection. The views of parents were obtained through a parents' response form, of which 557 were returned.

## **WHAT THE SCHOOL SHOULD DO NOW**

### **KEY ISSUES THAT THE SCHOOL NEEDS TO ADDRESS:**

To raise further the quality of provision and of learning the governors and the school should:

- develop practical objectives for the aims of the school in order to evaluate more easily the effectiveness of the Mission Statement.
- provide inservice for form tutors to put into practice the guidance given to deliver quality Collective Worship.
- continue to develop the Departmental Handbook, especially with regard to the Schemes of Work in Key Stage 3.
- continue to target pupils and provide the necessary support to improve the G.C.S.E. Religious Studies examination results.

*The Governing Body is responsible for drawing up an ADDITIONAL ACTION PLAN within 40 working days of receiving the report, showing what the school is going to do about the issues. This action plan will be circulated to all parents of pupils at the school.*