

3 January 2020

Mrs M Ward
Headteacher
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
Bournes Row
Hoghton
Preston
PR5 0DQ

Dear Michelle

I am writing to congratulate you on the outcome of your recent Section 8 Ofsted inspection. You, the Governors and the staff must be very proud of the recognition given to your dedication, determination and the setting of high standards. Indeed, it was very pleasing to read that you have created a team that 'are approachable and friendly and that work hard to ensure that the school continues to thrive.'

The help and support that you and your staff provide to parents and carers is very positive and I am sure much appreciated. 'Parents and carers speak highly of the school, especially in relation to the variety of activities on offer beyond the academic curriculum.'

It is a credit to you and your staff that the inspectors recognised that pupils themselves are not only 'enthusiastic learners but they are polite, well-mannered and behave sensibly.' You must be delighted that the children say that 'everything is just right.'

It was great to hear about the curriculum at St Joseph's which is 'rich and varied.' The recent changes to the design of the wider curriculum mean that teachers know what pupils need to learn in each subject and in what order. I was particularly interested in how many 'opportunities the children have to visit places of interest and take part in sports and creative arts events. Leaders make sure that disadvantaged pupils are fully included in these activities, including in residential visits to outdoor education centres. No one is left out.' Well done!

I note that there are areas that you are to focus on in continuing improvements for the school and I'm confident that you have developed a strong team who are accessing a range of support in order to fully embed the improvements that you have identified. I'm sure that the school will continue to flourish.

I wish you every best wish for the future.

Yours sincerely



Tim Warren
Diocesan Director of Education

