



# St. Paulinus Catholic Primary Academy

Part of the Blessed Peter Snow Catholic Academy Trust

Inspiring all to live, learn and love in the light of Jesus.

(cf John 8:12)



**The news is in – OfSTED report will be published this week.**

## **The new OfSTED framework overview:**

As you may have heard, the OfSTED framework has changed since 2019. It is no longer a best fit model, like it used to be prior to this. Schools have been working hard to change the curriculums to meet the new framework and St. Paulinus is no different. The framework and OfSTED thinking are constantly being updated and schools try hard to keep up to all the new information. Their grading system has also changed and what they can and cannot put in reports is also much more tightly monitored. As a school, we get a lot more detail in our feedback and so I have tried to give you some of this below. For more information, you can read the full report.

## **Overview of grades you can be awarded and what they mean:**

Under the current framework you receive a grade for Quality of education (which includes curriculum planning, teaching and learning and assessing what pupils know and remember through talking to pupils and looking at their books), Personal development (which includes the RPSHE curriculum, how the children treat others, especially those with protected characteristics and what the children can achieve and can have a go at beyond the curriculum e.g. sports events, pupil leadership etc), Behaviour and attitudes to learning, Leadership and management (which includes leaders all the way from Trust level, to governors, to SLT in school, to subject leaders) and Quality of provision for the EYFS. Safeguarding is a separate judgement, and you are either “effective” or “not effective” in its provision. Schools can be awarded one of the following grades in each of these areas and then achieve an overall grade:

**Outstanding** – it is rare to get this grade under the new framework, a previous Chief of OfSTED likened this to getting a Michelin star and that practice needs to be exceptional. You need to get every piece of good criteria to be eligible to look at the Outstanding criteria.

**Good** – this means you are a great school and is the aim for all schools to achieve this. It may interest you to know that even if you do not meet 1 word within 1 bullet point in this statement that you cannot achieve this grade – so it is a very strict criteria.

**Requires Improvement** – this means that you are providing an adequate or satisfactory education but there are areas for you to improve on to get your school to “good”. It may interest you to know that there is no requires improvement criteria, it simply says has not yet met **all** the good criteria (see above).

**Inadequate** – this means that you are not providing an adequate education and the school needs rapid improvement to ensure that children are well cared for academically and/ or personally. It may interest you to know that if you meet even 1 statement in this criteria, even if the rest of the statements are good or outstanding, you cannot get higher than this grade.

*‘An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.’ Ofsted 2017*

TEMPLE ROAD, DEWSBURY, WEST YORKSHIRE, WF13 3QE

Tel: (01924) 488282

E-mail: [office@stpaulinus.org](mailto:office@stpaulinus.org)

Website: [www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk](http://www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk)

## **Have we made progress from our last inspection? Yes, we have!**

In the last OfSTED we were asked to improve phonics and early reading, improve our curriculum offer and ensure that all teachers were clear on what children need to know and remember.

OfSTED this time felt that our phonics and reading offer was strong and in fact praised us for our 1:1 reading programme saying it was “exceptional”.

Inspectors also recognised that we had worked hard on our curriculum offer and most subjects were where they needed to be with teachers being clear on what children needed to know and remember – but they have asked us to continue to work on this in some subjects where that is not yet fully embedded.

We are really pleased that it was recognised that we had achieved the targets for these areas. So well done Team Paulinus!!

## **What did they say this time?**

This time, OfSTED praised the school for its very strong offer in personal development, explaining that children feel happy and safe in the school and that they can talk about a range of things such as other faiths, the British values, how to keep themselves safe, how to look after themselves mentally and about the protected characteristics with enthusiasm, confidence, and maturity. They also found that Safeguarding in the school was robust and very strong.

OfSTED also praised us for the behaviour and attitudes observed over the 2 days – saying that the children were polite, courteous, and welcoming. They were really impressed with the behaviour they witnessed at playtimes and when moving through school as well as how they behaved in lesson time. Well done everyone!

School was told that there are no further actions to take in terms of Personal development, Behaviour and Attitudes or for provision in Safeguarding. The provision was extremely strong in all three areas, and we are well on track for outstanding in this area and were awarded an overall judgement of Good.

In the other areas relating to quality of education, the inspectors felt that the school is well on its way to getting that overall grading of Good. They felt that leaders are taking all the right actions in order to tackle the areas for development, however, the impact of these actions cannot yet be fully seen and so, from this 2 day snapshot they felt that they did not yet have enough evidence to say that we were a solid good – we need more time to see how our actions are impacting what pupils of all learner groups, particular those working below age related expectations, know and remember. They explained that they were in no doubt that we would get there but at this time did not have enough evidence to give that good judgement.

## **Areas of strength:**

- ✓ Provision for safeguarding
- ✓ Our RPSHE curriculum
- ✓ Pupils could talk with maturity and great knowledge about keeping themselves and others safe, how to help one another and about protected characteristics and other faiths – one child said, “the most important thing is love”.
- ✓ Our opportunities for pupil leadership
- ✓ Our phonics and reading provision for the children.

*‘An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.’ Ofsted 2017*

**TEMPLE ROAD, DEWSBURY, WEST YORKSHIRE, WF13 3QE**

**Tel:** (01924) 488282

**E-mail:** office@stpaulinus.org

**Website:** [www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk](http://www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk)

- ✓ A clear love and passion for reading was seen across the school.
- ✓ Behaviour was excellent.
- ✓ Attitudes towards learning were excellent.
- ✓ Strong SEND provision has been implemented which will have a good impact in the future.
- ✓ Leaders within the school are making the right decisions and focusing on the right areas of need and development. These are already being tackled and addressed.
- ✓ Impact has already been seen where leaders have put their focus and inspectors were sure that would happen in the new areas for development.
- ✓ Good teaching and learning were seen across the school in most classes and in most lessons.

**Areas for development: This is what school will be working on until the next inspection.**

- Ensure that all curriculum subjects have all the knowledge fully defined – this will enable teachers to close any gaps left over from the pandemic and from the changeover of curriculum so that all pupils, including those who are working below age related expectations, can build upon their knowledge and know and remember more in every subject.
- On occasions, some pupils were not given the right task to address the historical learning gaps and match the things they need to learn to close these gaps. School will be supporting, where necessary, teachers in developing meeting the needs of all learners and in designing tasks to enable them to succeed and closing those gaps in knowledge from previous years e.g., over the pandemic.
- Early Years needs to develop their curriculum further so that the children are more ready for Year 1 and beyond.

**The judgements:**

- Quality of Education: Requires Improvement (due to the above areas for development it meant that we did not fully meet a couple of the bullet points so you cannot get Good yet)
- Personal Development: Good
- Behaviour and Attitudes: Good
- Safeguarding: is effective
- Leadership and Management: Requires Improvement (due to 1 bullet point relating the above curriculum area for development but all other areas were good)
- EYFS: Requires Improvement (due to the above area for development)

I really would encourage everyone to read the report and not just look at the labels given. We thank all families for your support, and we will continue to do our best for all the children here as we continue to tackle the gaps in knowledge from lockdowns etc and move the school forwards in its goal to succeed and flourish.

Thank you,

Miss Hayes and the staff of St Paulinus.

*'An outstanding school, which is deeply committed to the Catholic mission... this school inspires all within this faith community to live life to the full.'* Ofsted 2017

**TEMPLE ROAD, DEWSBURY, WEST YORKSHIRE, WF13 3QE**

**Tel:** (01924) 488282

**E-mail:** office@stpaulinus.org

**Website:** [www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk](http://www.stpaulinuscps.org.uk)