



# St Joseph & St Theresa Catholic Primary School

High Street, Chasetown, Staffordshire WS7 3XL

Tel: 01543 227220

Headteacher: Mrs I Walker

Email: [headteacher@st-joseph-st-theresa.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:headteacher@st-joseph-st-theresa.staffs.sch.uk)  
[office@st-joseph-st-theresa.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-joseph-st-theresa.staffs.sch.uk)

23<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian,

At the very end of November 2022 our school was inspected over a two-day period under the new framework and revised Ofsted regulations, please note our last formal inspection was 13 years ago under a very different framework. The inspection included 'deep dives' into early reading & phonics, mathematics, geography and music.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2022, Ofsted released a publication about the impact of their revised regulations <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hundreds-of-formerly-outstanding-schools-reinspected>. As the revised framework is even more rigorous than the previous, and the outstanding judgement is an exacting judgement, where expectations are highly elevated in comparison to previous inspection frameworks; this has led to significantly fewer schools retaining their prior judgement and Ofsted acknowledge this in the publication noted above.

On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2023, we were issued with our Ofsted report, St Joseph & St Theresa's has been judged overall as 'Good' by the inspection team, with an 'Outstanding' rating for 'Behaviour and Attitudes'.

We believe there are many positives to be celebrated from this demanding inspection – most significant for me as Chair of the Governing Body is that all the children spoken to both as part of pupil interviews, during lesson visits and on the playground in free time said they are happy at our school and they felt safe. The children's education is provided by a team of staff not only extremely proud to be part of the school team, but who also genuinely care about the children and their individual learning needs. We are exceptionally fortunate in having a whole school team from the Head Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher through to our catering, facilities and Bursar completely dedicated to the faith, education and welfare of our children.

The report from Ofsted is a very brief summary, and highlights only a limited selection of the areas they found the school to be doing well at during their inspection, as well as a two areas for further improvement. So, I have taken the trouble to highlight for you some of the extremely positive feedback shared with the Senior Leaders and Governing Body in person, during which inspectors acknowledged that in all areas of the framework there were many areas where evidence of the outstanding judgement was apparent:

- "There is a sequential and ambitious curriculum in place that builds on leader's prioritisation of language, communication and core skills."

- “Leaders have a clear vision for the curriculum, it is ambitious particularly for pupils with SEND. The building of the curriculum in all areas, including from Early Years to KS1, has been a high priority for all subject leaders with clear progressions in place.”
- “In lessons the expectation for behaviour is commonly understood and there is a respectful culture”, inspectors reported a real strength was the respectful relationships between staff and children.
- “Children displayed positive learning behaviours and manners were evident.”
- “There is an inclusive environment in the school and additional adults support those children who need this well. SEND pupils are fully included in all aspects of school life.”
- “All staff are proud to work at the school and are incredibly positive about leadership & management and spoke highly of the head teacher, with one member of staff commenting that ‘the emphasis is on the children rather than the admin’.”
- The parent and staff survey were described by inspectors as overwhelmingly positive, “particularly where these stakeholders had spoken about how approachable the head teacher is, including her availability and support.” Inspectors felt there is a high level of parental engagement due to the way leaders support parents.”

There were also some heart-warming comments from our pupils to the inspectors:

- “We are all unique and it’s ok to be different.”
- “It doesn’t matter who you are, you would be welcome at our school.”
- Pupils were able to identify you have to be “nice and kind to be a good friend.”

In regard to areas where the inspectors believed the school could improve further, please be assured Ms Walker and her staff were already aware of and addressing these areas and will be keeping the Governing Body updated through the Head Teacher termly reports, our link Governor visits and face to face meetings.

Also as parents/guardians you will see in the report you are invited to use ‘Ofsted Parent View’ to give Ofsted your opinion on your child’s school, or to find out what other parents and carers think. We would like to thank all parents who completed the survey during our inspection; the governing body and staff were delighted at the positive response received through the portal. You are of course welcome to respond to Ofsted about this report if you wish.

In conjunction with the Governing Body, I have every faith our children will truly continue to receive an enhanced level of education and care from our dedicated school team, fulfilling our school motto of ‘Growing Together with Jesus’ to the very best of their unique abilities.

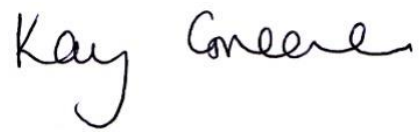
Finally, please do take the time to read the attached summary report in full and do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or queries.

As a Governing Body, along with Fr. Linh our Parish Priest, we have over recent weeks since the inspection celebrated the school's achievements in a variety of ways. This has included personally thanking each staff member for their commitment, hard work and dedication to your children and the lifelong learning journey they experience as being part of the St Joseph and St Theresa school family.

Thank you all too, for your continued support of our school community, it is truly appreciated.

God bless you all

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kay Greene". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'K' and a long, sweeping underline.

Kay Greene  
(Chair of Governors/Foundation Governor)