



Highgate Hill
London
N19 5NE

T: 020 7272 1270
E: office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk
W: www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk

Executive
Headteacher
Clare McFlynn

Head of School
Angela Noronha

11th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted that we are able to share the outcome from last term's Ofsted inspection. Our school has been judged '**Outstanding**' in all categories and Ofsted has affirmed that there is an exceptional quality of education provided for children at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School. As the Ofsted inspection framework has changed significantly since the last inspection in 2009, this represents an amazing achievement for our school.

The inspection took place on the 15th and 16th of November 2023 with three inspectors in attendance, two of whom were His Majesty's Inspectors (HMI). They observed all aspects of school life including the children's lessons, lunch times and playtimes. The inspection team were impressed with every aspect of school life. I include the following extracts from the report which confirms what we believe about our school:

Pupils are enthusiastic about coming to this exceptional, nurturing and inclusive school.

Pupils' behaviour is exemplary. Throughout the school there is a purposeful, yet calm, atmosphere.

The school has set out a highly structured and aspirational curriculum

Pupils speak knowledgeably and eloquently about their learning, recalling in depth what they have learned during their lessons.

The school provides a rich range of opportunities for pupils to develop their interests and talents.

The school makes sure that activities and resources connect with and extend children's interests, alongside supporting them to understand key ideas.

All pupils are encouraged to aim high and do their best.

You will read in the report that the quality of education was inspected through 'Deep Dives' in specific subjects, which entails looking closely at the planned learning and

delivery of a subject across the whole school. Deep dives were carried out in six curriculum areas: Reading, Maths, Science, History, Computing and P.E.

Other subjects were scrutinised as well so the inspection team had a strong overall knowledge of the curriculum offer at St. Joseph's. Inspectors met with subject leaders to discuss the curriculum and provision for learning, observed lessons, looked at children's work and spoke with both teachers and pupils. They also considered feedback from staff and parent questionnaires.

Inspectors met with a range of pupils in groups and observed them throughout the day. It was their view that children feel safe and lunchtimes and playtimes are a happy experience, during which pupils have access to a variety of activities. Inspectors commented that it was a pleasure speaking with them; I am personally so proud of them.

I am sure you will join me in thanking our dedicated staff, past and present who have all contributed to this outcome. Thanks also to our Governing Body; their commitment, leadership and care are exceptional. A massive thank you must also go to the children who have been a credit to you and their school.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you for your overwhelming support of our 'outstanding' school during the inspection process. It was so uplifting for all the staff. I value the time you took to complete questionnaires, speak to inspectors and the kind words or hugs received at the school gate. Such strong support demonstrates what a great community we have here at St. Joseph's and long may it continue. Please take time to read the full report. I hope it makes you feel proud to belong to such an 'OUTSTANDING' school!

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. McFlynn', written in a cursive style.

Clare McFlynn
Executive Head Teacher