

RE Learning Walk	Date: 4/7/2017
Focus of visit A group of governors visited school to look at teaching and learning in RE	Classes/staff visited Please see below
Summary of activities e.g. talking to staff and pupils, looking at resources, had lunch etc.	
What did we do? We met Mrs. Henzell, Deputy Headteacher, who has responsibility for RE. She gave us information on RE and answered our questions on RE. We then visited the classes to see different aspects of RE. After this we discussed what we had seen and what areas there might be for further development. We also revisited the recommendations from the diocesan inspection in 2012. Nursery: were learning about Eid Year 1: had been writing a class psalm Year 2: were looking at the idea of treasures and looking after the environment and resources and discussing what to do in different circumstances Year 3: were learning about the sacrament of Reconciliation Year 4: were writing and performing plays about different saints (e.g. Francis, John Bosco) and were linking the saints' actions to following the teachings of Jesus. Year 5: were exploring the Beatitudes and creating and performing dramas to show one of the Beatitudes. Year 6: were learning about Lourdes and linking this learning to other passages from Scripture	
<p>What did we learn?</p> <p>We found out a great deal about teaching and learning in RE.</p> <p><i>Come and See programme</i></p> <p>This begins in EYFS and is incorporated into the 'understanding the world' topic where the children look at families. Later it becomes more of a separate subject. The RE programme also includes the 'Journey in Love' work for the SRE curriculum. Children are assessed by levels and the expected levels are: end of KS1 L2c, Year 4 L2a and Year 6 L4. There are 3 moderation meetings in school per year. There are 3 diocesan-set tasks for moderation and these are discussed at a diocesan meeting. This year our standards were similar to those of other schools.</p> <p><i>Child-led liturgy</i></p> <p>This had been an action point from the last inspection. This has been developed further and is more embedded. It has been an Appraisal target. Teachers us the diocesan format. The children in Year 5 were able to tell us that they led a liturgy at the end of each topic. Year 1 had written a psalm and read it to us.</p> <p><i>Collective worship and prayer</i></p> <p>There are assemblies led by SLT during the week. On some days the children have collective worship in class. Children use the Respond booklets from Come and See and there is a prayer box in the hall where intentions for prayer can be placed. Fr. Shaun</p>	
<p>Positive comments</p> <p>It was interesting to see the range of work in the children's books. There were different types of tasks and varied approaches. We could see the focal points in each classroom. Mrs. Henzell plans to improve these with new fabric etc.</p> <p>The children could talk confidently about their work. In year 3 they could tell us about reconciliation and forgiveness and we could see that there was a challenge question for children to do. Children in different classes could tell us how their learning linked to the teachings of Jesus. They could tell us about learning to pray and about the different types of work they did in RE e.g longer writing tasks, drama, visits, letters, answering questions. Examples of these could be seen in their books and in the activities in the classes that we visited.</p> <p>Examples of good work in RE are on display in the hall.</p> <p>We talked about how the links between the parish and school were stronger eg children attending the First Friday Mass, the 'Buy a Bible' scheme, improved First Holy Communion preparation programme (delivered jointly to OLSA children and a group from St. Michael's)</p>	

has celebrated class masses with two groups this term.

Any questions?

We asked about parental requests for withdrawal from RE. This has not happened. We asked about the crucifix as a focal point in the hall when the screen is not in use. Some policies (model RSE/PSHCE and RE curriculum) are being reviewed by the diocese and should be ready this term.

We asked about support from the diocese and from the parish. There is very good support from both areas.

Action points from the last RE inspection in 2012 were discussed and we asked about lesson observations in RE. These do take place and the SLT also carry out Learning Walks.

We also asked about the DSEF (self -evaluation form for the diocese). The SLT have been updating this and Mrs. Henzell is using the questionnaire from the diocesan website. She asked if Fr. Shaun and the chair would look at the DSEF.

Ideas for future visits:

Ideas for future visits and ideas for development

It would be interesting to visit classes to see their contributions to liturgies. We discussed the idea of termly Sunday mass at the cathedral led by the school and development of the RE display in the reception area.

We could further develop the Advent story-telling that was started last year when governors were invited to read a story to a class in EYFS.

We suggested that the cathedral mass times could be put into the school newsletter each week. We noted that the cathedral website had a link to the school's website and vice versa.

Any other comments:

All the classes we visited were engaged with their learning. The children showed excellent behaviour for learning, were enthusiastic and active learners and were enjoying their RE. They talked confidently to governors about their work. It was evident that the way in which RE is being delivered promotes the school's Christian values and Catholic ethos. Work on Eid in nursery showed that different faiths are respected and valued.

SIP links

Key Issue 3: Improve attainment in Writing across the school; Key Issue 4: Assessment and monitoring ; Key Issue 6: Quality first teaching

**Signed
(Governor)**

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