

## Summary Report to Parents

### CHARACTERISTICS AND CONTEXT OF THE SCHOOL

St. Joseph's is a Roman Catholic Primary School situated in Mossley a small mill town situated on the edge of the Pennine Moors. The school serves the parish of St Joseph's Mossley though due to its popularity a number of children travel from outside the local area. It is a slightly smaller than the average size Primary School with 168 pupils on roll (including 22 part time nursery children). 79% of children are baptised Catholic. The school's deprivation indicator shows that it is broadly in line with national averages, though this has shown a decline in recent years. Pupils who attend the school are mainly white British as the proportion of pupils identified as coming from ethnic minority backgrounds is below the national average. 31 pupils are on the SEN register with 1 pupil having a statement of educational need. 21% of pupils are eligible for FSM, which is below the national average though this is a rising figure. Mobility in the school is also rising and in some year groups is above the national average. 31 children receive the Pupil Premium Grant. 5 out of 8.9 teachers are Catholic and all have the Catholic teacher's certificate or its equivalent. All teachers teach R.E. and lead collective acts of prayer and worship. There are 8.5 support staff of which 3 are Catholic.

### OVERALL EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SCHOOL

St Joseph's is a good Catholic Primary school. There is a genuinely warm and caring welcome given to all. All children are offered a Catholic education in a friendly and supportive environment where differences are welcomed and celebrated. The school supports the sacramental programme through the effective preparation of the children. The children have a rich experience of a variety of collective acts of worship which ensures the pastoral and spiritual needs of the learners are well met. The effective head teacher has high expectations of adults and children. She knows the school well and has a clear vision for future improvement. Together with the hard working staff she has created an ethos where everyone recognises the need to work together as a "family", showing love and concern for all its members. The recently revised Mission Statement is brought alive through the commitment and sense of ownership of the whole school community. The children enjoy coming to school and the school council expressed how very proud they are of all the opportunities given to them. As one child stated "This school is perfect except that we don't have enough pyjama parties" Pupils are friendly, polite and welcoming and their behaviour at all times is exemplary. They work hard to achieve the high expectations of the adults who work with them. They enjoyed every opportunity to share with the inspectors their work. The staff and pupils demonstrate a very high level of respect, care and service to others. This evidenced through their support for a variety of local initiatives and charities such as No Smoking campaigns. Work for Water Aid and St Joseph's Penny. The quality of relationships is a notable strength of the school.

### THE KEY STRENGTHS OF THE SCHOOL INCLUDE:

The outstanding quality of welfare of the children  
The quality of relationships  
The behaviour of the children  
The effective leadership of the head teacher  
The high quality acts of collective worship

### AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT:

- **To improve the outcomes of learning in curriculum R.E. through:**
  - a. the provision of consistent high quality teaching**
  - b. the implementation of an effective marking policy which provides children with the next steps in their learning and celebrates their success.**

- **To improve the opportunities for children to develop their involvement in the planning and delivery of the reflective prayer life of the school through the introduction of pupil chaplaincy.**
- **To improve the effectiveness of the leadership of curriculum R.E. through the appointment of a new R.E. Co-ordinator**