



The London Oratory School

Seagrave Road, Fulham, London SW6 1RX

Date of inspection by Westminster Diocese: 14 - 15 February 2019

Summary of key findings for parents and pupils Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

A. Classroom religious education is good

The department meets the requirements of the Religious Education Curriculum Directory at all key stages. The core Religious Education programme in the sixth form is strong with some creative approaches to curriculum construction

The GCSE results are significantly above the national average, with a high proportion of pupils achieving the top grades. Attainment in A Level Religious Studies is also very strong, with many students achieving their target grade or above.

Teaching is judged to be good with examples of consistently good, and even outstanding lessons and results in most pupils making good progress and achieving well over time.

The department has worked hard to successfully address the previous inspections issues of action. The head of department has a clear vision for Catholic Religious education that encompasses both a dedication to achieving excellent academic outcomes for pupils as well as preparing them for the demands of religious commitment in daily life.

Classroom religious education is not yet outstanding because

The religious education curriculum needs adaptation to meet the challenge of the timetable revision.

In religious education lessons there are not enough opportunities for pupils to be stretched and challenged.

Religious education lessons need to ensure all pupils are catered for in the planning and delivery.

B. The Catholic life of the school is outstanding

The school now fully meets the diocesan requirement of 10% curriculum time.

The experience that pupils receive from Catholic worship is outstanding. The liturgy provision demonstrates that worship and prayer are central to the life of the school. The school has an ambitious and highly successful music tradition that makes a significant contribution to the liturgy experienced by pupils.

The sacramental life of the school is vibrant. The Eucharist is a significant feature of the experience of pupils; there are abundant opportunities to attend Mass. The chaplain is a visible presence in the school, establishing very strong relationships and he communicates the Oratorian charism clearly.

The school has a dynamic understanding of the calls to 'human flourishing' and provides many opportunities for pupils to engage in acts of service, both within the school and outside of it.

The school has a very strong partnership with the Brompton Oratory. This is most visible in the weekly contribution of the school's main choir, the Schola, which sings at the Saturday evening Mass. This is a highly significant service from the school to the parish that is an example to other Catholic schools.

The recently appointed headmaster is a driving force in the school's commitment to educate young people with a coherent Catholic vision of growth into wisdom. The headmaster is highly ambitious for the school and instils in staff and pupils the desire to strive for excellence as an effective Catholic school.