



18th July 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians

We are OUTSTANDING!

We are extremely pleased to share with you the outcome of our recent Junior School Ofsted inspection which was carried out on 13th and 14th June 2018.

Our school has been assessed as '**OUTSTANDING**' overall. Please see the report attached.

In our previous inspection which was carried out in April 2016, we were assessed as 'Requires Improvement'. In the six terms since, we have established an excellent record of improvement and are now validated by Ofsted as a school that provides '**OUTSTANDING**' education for all its pupils.

Ofsted judge Junior schools on 5 key areas, these being; effectiveness of leadership and management; quality of teaching, learning and assessment; personal development, behaviour and welfare; outcomes for pupils and then the school's overall effectiveness. The four judgments are 4 – inadequate; 3 – requires improvement; 2 – good; 1 – outstanding. In all of these 5 areas we have been judged to be '**OUTSTANDING**'

This is a phenomenal achievement that reflects the commitment and collective dedication given by our talented staff and families to ensure that we achieve the best that we can!

Your support throughout the inspection was tremendous. The inspectors were blown away by the enthusiasm of our whole community. Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive responses on 'Parentview', which are noted in the report.

This is a tremendous achievement and is one that the school community truly deserves. We are thrilled that the inspection team obviously recognised the tireless hard work, commitment, dedication and diligent professionalism that occur every day across our school. What the inspectors saw on the two days was nothing different to what happens each and every day at St Joseph's. It was great to see that the inspection team recognized this from the moment they walked through the door on the first day.

What is particularly pleasing is that they recognised that 'teachers' exceptionally strong subject knowledge ensures that pupils achieve well across the curriculum.' Additionally, they acknowledged that 'leaders and governors have worked extremely effectively to improve outcomes and the quality of teaching and learning since the previous inspection.' There are so many fantastic quotes in the report that they are all difficult to list so please take time to read the report in full.

Acting Headteacher: Mrs Lisa Kelly

The Federation of St. Joseph's Catholic Junior, Infant and Nursery Schools

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Our '**OUTSTANDING**' judgement will not bring a hint of complacency and we continue to share a constant desire for improvement. We have a detailed development plan in place to map growth throughout the school. The areas that have been mentioned in the report as areas of development is already something that school leaders and Governors have already started to address in the 'School Development Plan.' If you have any questions regarding the report please do not hesitate to contact me.

As Acting Headteacher I could not be more proud. Over the last two years since the last inspection, staff and Governors have been working tirelessly to improve all areas of school. The school has faced many challenges over these years and they have all been addressed with commitment and professionalism. I want to take this opportunity to thank all staff and governors, past and present, who have worked to make St Joseph's into the '**OUTSTANDING**' school that it is.

The journey over the last two years has been an extremely rewarding one and we can see the positive benefits of this throughout the school. OFSTED's recognition of this achievement through the awarding of an '**OUTSTANDING**' judgement is an incredibly positive validation of all of our effort. We are now looking forward to continuing the journey and building on our success.

Finally, **children** I would like to personally thank you. I am extremely proud of you all and consider myself incredibly fortunate to work with such talented, hardworking and lovely pupils. We will have a celebration on Thursday to recognise this amazing achievement.

Yours sincerely

Lisa Kelly
Acting Headteacher

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