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14 May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

**RE: Feedback from our recent Catholic Schools Inspectorate Inspection CSI**

It is with immense pride and gratitude that I write to share the outcome of our recent **Catholic School Inspection (CSI)**, conducted on April 30<sup>th</sup> and the May 1<sup>st</sup> this year. I am delighted to inform you that our school has been graded **Outstanding in all areas of the inspection framework**.

This is an exceptional achievement—one that reflects the collective dedication, faith, and hard work of our entire school community. The CSI framework is rigorous and far-reaching, assessing not only the quality of Catholic life and mission, religious education, and collective worship, but also how deeply the Gospel values are lived out in the daily life of the school.

To be judged Outstanding across the board is both rare and remarkable. It recognises that our school is a place where Christ is at the centre of all we do; where faith, learning, and love go hand in hand; and where every individual is encouraged to be the person that God calls us to be, nurtured to grow in kindness, wisdom, knowledge, and holiness.

This outcome belongs to us all staff, governors, students, primary feeder schools, Parishes and you, the primary educators of children, their parents and carers. Your ongoing support, prayers, and partnership in our mission have played a vital role in this success, and we thank you sincerely.

As we celebrate this milestone, we remain deeply committed to continuous improvement and to offering your children a truly excellent and faith-filled education, inspiring excellence in every individual and encouraging everyone in our community to be kind, follow the rules and try your best.

On the back of this letter, I have summarised what it means to be an Outstanding school under the new CSI framework. Please take a moment to read the report in full, found on our website and celebrate the outstanding Catholic school community that we are.

Yours sincerely,

Dominic Kelly

Headteacher



### What does it mean to be outstanding?

Achieving an "Outstanding" rating in a CSI (Catholic Schools Inspectorate) inspection is very challenging and requires a consistently high standard across all areas. It's not simply about meeting the minimum requirements but demonstrating exceptional practices and outcomes for pupils. Schools must go beyond good and showcase excellence in areas like teaching quality, behaviour and attitudes, personal development, and leadership.

Factors contributing to the difficulty:

- **High Standards:**  
Outstanding ratings demand consistently high levels of achievement and improvement.
- **Focus on Depth:**  
Inspectors look for more than just surface-level work. They examine the quality of teaching, curriculum design, and the impact on pupils' learning and well-being.
- **Systemic Approach:**  
An outstanding school doesn't just excel in one area; it demonstrates a holistic approach where all aspects of the school contribute to positive outcomes for pupils.
- **Maintaining Excellence:**  
Many outstanding schools struggle to maintain that high standard over time, highlighting the difficulty of consistently exceeding expectations.

What an "Outstanding" school looks like:

- **Exceptional Teaching and Learning:**  
Teachers are highly skilled, engage pupils effectively, and create a stimulating learning environment.
- **Positive and Supportive Environment:**  
Students feel safe, respected, and motivated to learn.
- **Exceptional Behaviour and Attitudes:**  
Pupils consistently demonstrate respect for others, have positive attitudes towards learning, and make a positive contribution to the school and community.
- **Strong Leadership:**  
Leaders are visionary, proactive, and ensure that all stakeholders are aligned in their commitment to excellence.
- **Data-Driven Improvement:**  
Schools continuously monitor and evaluate their performance, using data to inform and refine their practices.

In essence, achieving "Outstanding" in a CSI inspection requires a significant commitment to excellence, a deep understanding of best practices, and a relentless pursuit of improvement across all aspects of the school.