

CfBT Inspection Services
Suite 22
West Lancs Investment Centre
Maple View
Skelmersdale
WN8 9TG

T 0300 123 1231

Text Phone: 0161 618 8524

enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk

www.ofsted.gov.uk

Direct T 01695 566932

Direct F 01695 729320

Direct email: hcarnall@cfbt.com



1 July 2014

Mr Mark Taylor
Headteacher
St Augustine's Roman Catholic School, Scarborough
Sandybed Lane
Stepney Hill
Scarborough
North Yorkshire
YO12 5LH

Dear Mr Taylor

Requires improvement: monitoring inspection visit to St Augustine's Roman Catholic School, Scarborough, North Yorkshire

Following my visit to your school on 30 June 2014, I write on behalf of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills to report the inspection findings. Thank you for the help you gave me and for the time you made available to discuss the actions you are taking to improve the school since the most recent section 5 inspection.

The visit was the first monitoring inspection since the school was judged to require improvement following the section 5 inspection in February 2014. It was carried out under section 8 of the Education Act 2005.

Senior leaders and governors are taking effective action to tackle the areas requiring improvement identified at the recent section 5 inspection. The school should take further action to:

- continue to narrow the achievement gap between students in receipt of pupil premium and other students.

Evidence

During the inspection, meetings were held with the Headteacher, other senior leaders, middle leaders, students, the Chair of the Governing Body and a representative of the local authority to discuss the action taken since the last inspection. The school improvement action plans were evaluated, and also tracking information for Year 10, Year 11 and KS3.

Context

Four members of staff have left the school since the last inspection.

Main findings

The school has responded very well to the recent judgement and has made substantial progress. There is an improvement plan which lists actions to be taken to address the areas for improvement. These actions are specific and it is clear exactly when they will be done and how they will be measured through numerical success criteria. These actions are being carried out at an accelerated rate, and the schools current estimates for the 2014 GCSEs show a big increase from the 2013 outcomes. Most groups are predicted improve their attainment. The only gap is in the attainment of the pupil premium students compared to other students. However the progress of this group is strong and the tracking for other year groups is more promising.

Joint monitoring by the headteacher and the local authority suggests that outcomes and teaching are improving across the school. Students' books show that marking and feedback has also improved. Pupils respond to the feedback by correcting and improving their work.

The governors have collected first hand evidence supported by the local authority adviser and have also scrutinised documentation provided by the headteacher. The monitoring and evaluation carried out by governors is strategic, and it regularly monitors the impact of actions taken to improve the school.

The students report that the school is improving, relationships are strong and teachers want them to make progress.

Ofsted may carry out further visits and, where necessary, provide further support and challenge to the school until its next section 5 inspection.

External support

The Local Authority has given the school valuable support through their advisory service. The School Improvement Group meet on a regular basis and the LA representative is an integral member of the committee, helping to hold the leadership of the school to account.

I am copying this letter to the Chair of the Governing Body and the Director of Children's Services for North Yorkshire.

Yours sincerely

Robert Pritchard
Her Majesty's Inspector