

On 17<sup>th</sup> June 2019 our Early Years Foundation Stage was inspected by Sarah Pugh, a County Early Years Consultant. Here are some snapshots from her report.

- The Early Years Co-ordinator knows the unit well and visits regularly to support. Her leadership and management is good. She has a thorough understanding of the Early Years curriculum, has established a close knit team of practitioners and has focussed on the points for development from the previous Ofsted report.
- The environments, both indoors and outdoors, provide an exciting and creative range of learning opportunities that promote children's independence and engagement across all areas of learning. Continuous provision inside was linked really well with both the children's interests and the teaching from the literacy session that morning. Outside, there is an exciting emphasis on maths and children could explain one more and one less in relation to their target throwing.
- Learning Journeys were comprehensive with accurate annotation.
- Progress is good, particularly in Communication and Language, and Personal, Social and Emotional Development.
- Tracking is thorough and embedded, with children identified quickly for targeted support and interventions such as Talkboost and Spirals.
- Children are good at independent learning and following their own threads of investigations.
- Adult interactions during free flow sessions in both Nursery and Reception classes with children are effective. Children were encouraged to think creatively and these interactions nurtured and engaged children.
- Behaviour is good. When children struggled, it was on an emotional level, and all members of staff responded appropriately and calmly, deescalating the situation quickly.
- Planning is effective and smart with clear objectives and focus children are highlighted clearly.

The Early Years Foundation Stage at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School is a safe place for children to learn and play. Staff are good role models and they sensitively interact with children and thread learning well into their play. The children benefit from positive relationships established with staff, and with each other.