

Monday 10th July 2023

Dear parents/carers

It is with great delight that I wish to share with you the final report from our Diocese Inspection on the 15th and 16th June 2023.

May I begin by thanking you for your unwavering support for our school community and your delightful comments to the inspectors via the parent feedback form. I am a very proud head teacher. Please access the report via this link: https://sjcs.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/St-Joseph-Secondary-Salisbury-June-2023.pdf

I would like to explain to you that since our last inspection in 2016, the framework, which is used to judge schools has changed twice, each time becoming more challenging to achieve the Good or Outstanding judgements. The most recent change is that inspections have been nationalised by the Catholic Schools Inspectorate so that all Catholic schools are inspected under the same framework and by lead inspectors outside of Clifton Diocese. This, in my opinion has very much strengthened the process for the better. We are now able to compare our strengths and areas for development nationally. It is, however, important to point out that we are one of the first secondary Catholic schools to be inspected under this new regime. This gives us even more reason to celebrate.

Worthy of particular mention from the report are the following statements:

- 'There is an overriding joy amongst pupils in being part of a safe, caring and happy environment, to which they contribute with confidence'.
- 'There is an excellent commitment to pastoral care and staff are very positive about their own happiness'
- 'Leadership and governance are a great strength of the school'
- 'Leaders strive to work with parents who in surveys respond very positively about their children's experiences since joining the school'
- 'Long-term planning of work (in RE) is secure, and lessons are well planned leading to good progress in learning'
- 'School assemblies are very well programmed and form part of the rhythm and routine of life at St Joseph's'
- 'Leaders and governors are greatly committed to the liturgical life of the school, which is shown in the high quality of planning and engagement'

All this specific praise would not be achievable without the total commitment of every stakeholder of our school. The dedication and commitment of all is so heart felt and if I am honest - why I am so proud to be the head teacher of this very special school.

May I also take this opportunity to wish you a relaxing and enjoyable summer as we near the end of the academic year. I look forward to working with your children and yourselves again in September.

God Bless

Mrs RA Ridley

Headteacher

'I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit' John 15:5