

Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find attached our Regulatory Compliance Report, which should be read alongside our Education Quality Inspection report of 2018 which still remains valid.

A Regulatory Compliance Inspection Report is a summary of a 49 page document produced by the Independent Schools Inspectorate in conjunction with Ofsted and the Department for Education and which lays down the high standards expected in Independent Schools in England.

These standards range from the provision within the physical building such as toilets, systems for checking water quality, frequency of fire drills, school policy and the curriculum. It also focuses heavily on teaching and learning, child safety and the quality of leadership and management.

I am pleased to inform you that after a rigorous inspection, St Joseph's School and Nursery remains fully compliant and that every single one of the standards has been met.

We were particularly pleased with the inspector's comments relating to children's safety and that it was noted that 'the quality of teaching enables pupils to make good progress'. In addition, we were proud that our 'principles of value are actively promoted which facilitates the personal development of pupils as responsible, law abiding and tolerant..'

The report also confirms that 'pupils are properly supervised' and whilst it does not form part of the final document, the inspectors also commented positively on the quality of food; having enjoyed our Indian Feast Day and from sitting with the children at meal times during their visit. They were also excited by our extra-curricular timetable which includes dance, ice skating, French and archery.

Special mention should also go to Shirley who maintains our Single Central Register of appointments and vets all of the staff and visitors to the school to ensure they pose no threat to the children. This is a very complex, arduous and time consuming task but can be the difference between a pass or a fail. It is also therefore extremely stressful. Thankfully, and as you would expect, she was spot on and in the end of inspection briefing, the contribution made by ALL of the staff within the school and nursery towards safeguarding the children was also praised.

We are also very happy that the hard work in the Nursery was recognised in meeting not only the elements of compliance above, but also the rigorous standards set out in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and that the setting is still deemed to be at least good overall – just one judgement below outstanding! This is a great achievement bearing in mind the staffing difficulties experienced through Covid, Lauren's unfortunate absence (although she did defy her doctor's orders to stay at home before the inspectors arrived) and at a time when many nurseries are regularly judged as inadequate by an inspection team.

Finally, I must mention the Trustees, as unpaid volunteers, who have fulfilled their roles admirably to ensure everything is running as it should be.

To this end, our Chair of Trustees, Mr Austin Kelly has asked that I also pass on his thanks to both the staff and parents of the school and nursery for their positive feedback to the inspectors, their support and consistent hard work in ensuring we only ever give the best to your children.

All in all, we are very glad the inspection is over. It was challenging and they left no stone unturned. However, it is also reassuring to know that all the children in both school and nursery are receiving an excellent education in a safe, stimulating and friendly environment that has been independently verified. Therefore, I am pleased to add that, as before, you don't just have to take our word for it!

Kind regards