

Monday 24th June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Inclusion Quality Mark - Flagship status

In July 2018, in recognition of our hard work and commitment to inclusion, we gained our first IQM status after a rigorous assessment. In that time, it was identified that inclusion is a strength in our school and we were awarded Centre of Excellence status.

Our most recent assessment, earlier this month was incredibly positive and I am able to proudly share with you that this year we have been awarded the IQM Flagship status.

Only around 100 UK schools have achieved IQM Flagship School status. This award recognizes those unique schools who have held IQM Centre of Excellence status for at least 3 years; and played a strong leadership role in developing inclusion best practice across a network of schools. As part of the Flagship award we have committed to extending our network further and publishing classroom-based research.

Our assessor spoke positively about the work taking place at St Joseph's:

'During a walk around the school, it was evident that the school is deeply committed to nurturing the development of children as whole individuals, consistently emphasising its clear Catholic values throughout all aspects of school life. Displays prominently showcased this commitment, reflecting the school's ethos and mission statement.'

'During the assessment visit, it was clear that the school's commitment to inclusion and meeting community needs is strong. The importance of relationships is emphasised, with a high value placed on building connections and supporting transitions... This thoughtful and inclusive approach underscores the school's dedication to fostering a supportive and welcoming environment for every child.'

This award recognises all the hard work and expertise our staff continue to share with our school and the wider community. Although the IQM assessment was led by myself and Miss C. Bennett, this has been a team effort and all staff have worked relentlessly to ensure positive outcomes for our children.

We are incredibly proud of this award and I am sure you will join us in celebrating this wonderful achievement.

The full report will be shared on our school website.

Many thanks for your continued support.

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