



CARDINAL ALLEN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
.....
A Specialist Maths and Computing College

“Cardinal Allen is an outstanding Catholic School”
[Section 48 Inspection May 2012]



WELCOME

Students make an outstanding contribution to this school and gain a corresponding benefit from it.

[Section 48 Inspection May 2012]

The Headteacher and his senior team have steered the school with determination and skill. The quality of leadership is a key factor in the good teaching and rising attainment. The vision of the Headteacher is clear and ambitious.

[OFSTED March 2012]

Welcome from Cardinal Allen's Headteacher

Cardinal Allen is a progressive, exciting and happy school in which our students achieve outstanding levels of personal development. Pupils, Parents, Governors and Teachers recognise the importance of the school's Catholic and Christian education mission and are committed to it in every way. We are all proud to belong to a school offering rich challenge and extended opportunities to learn within a caring atmosphere of support for our students.

We have the very highest expectations of our pupils. Our aim is to ensure that every pupil achieves their full academic potential; we deliver this aim by equipping our teachers with the best resources so they can deliver stimulating lessons which inspire children to learn. Our Virtual Learning environment via the Moodle platform is generally acknowledged as one of the best in the Lancashire. We take Eco issues very seriously and have an International reputation for this work. We have exceptionally strong provision in English, Maths, ICT and Physical Education. This impacts on all subjects across school.

Our core values are Christ-centered and reflect the traditional standards respected within our communities. We endeavour to produce young people who show respect for themselves and each other; pupils and teachers are tolerant, courteous and show a high regard for those less fortunate than themselves. Because of this, our students are bright, cheerful, highly motivated and show outstanding attitudes to learning.





Students are proud of their school and appreciative of the contribution it makes to their well-being.

(Section 48 Inspection May 2012)

Students' enjoyment of school is reflected in their high attendance. Attitudes to learning are positive and contribute well to achievement. Students engage well in lessons and they are diligent and conscientious in their approach to the tasks and activities set.

(OFSTED March 2012)

The Community we serve

Although our school is served in the main by 8 feeder Catholic Primary schools situated in the boroughs of Wyre, Fylde and Blackpool Unitary authority our intake shows that we take pupils from many other schools. Our Admissions number has been raised to 165 so as to accommodate demand for places.

THE LIST OF SCHOOLS WE SERVE INCLUDES:

Sacred Heart Thornton

St. Bernadette's Bispham

St. John's Poulton

St. Mary's Fleetwood

St. Mary's Great Eccleston

St. Teresa's Cleveley's

St. William's Pilling

St. Wulstan's and St. Edmund's Fleetwood

Carleton St Hilda's

Fleetwood Charles Saer

Fleetwood Chaucer

Fleetwood Flakefleet

Larkholme Primary

Preesall Carter's Charity

Thornton-Cleveleys Baines Endowed

Thornton-Cleveleys Northfold Community

Thornton-Cleveleys Royles Brook

Thornton Manor Beach

Thornton Primary

Shakespeare Primary

Stanah Primary

Wescliffe, Bispham

The best way to fully appreciate our school is to visit us on a working day. If you would like a visit please contact me at school.

Philip Mooney
Headteacher



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Able, Gifted & Talented pupils make very good progress.

(Section 48 Inspection May 2012)

The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of students is fostered very strongly in lessons and by opportunities throughout the wider curriculum.

(OFSTED March 2012)

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OUR CURRICULUM:-challenging for all

All pupils follow a broad and balanced curriculum in Years 7, 8 and 9, which aims to provide a general education in academic, creative and practical subjects. Towards the end of Year 9, choices have to be made between subjects leading to various external examinations.

We consistently have the highest aspirations for our pupils, set motivating targets and challenge under-performance where it is evident. Our expectations for staff are very high and all staff know they are here to work hard for our pupils so establishing the drive for continuous improvement. Teachers fully understand their responsibility to facilitate a high quality learning experience for their pupils.

Teachers track progress and attainment rigorously and parents are given regular updates throughout the year. This focus on personal progress allows us to be clear about the next steps to support improvement.

Our on-line homework system has proved to be very popular with pupils and parents. Tasks are set in advance according to a published timetable and parents can see very detailed information for each subject. We rigorously follow up homework and pupils are rewarded in special assemblies for their effort and achievements.

Pupils can choose from an excellent and wide range of courses of study in Years 10 & 11.

We have mapped out the changes necessary to keep pace with Department for Education expectations for the next 3 to 4 years. A guide is available on the school website.





Students value and gain a profound benefit from the Catholic character of Cardinal Allen Catholic High School

(Section 48 Inspection May 2012)

There is a very high level of satisfaction about progress expressed by parents and carers (OFSTED March 2012)

CHRIST at the Centre of our school

Every day begins with prayer and reflection in Form time so as to prepare the pupils and staff for the day ahead; we believe that these opportunities help to inculcate an inner strength and resilience within the pupils as they strive to achieve, to overcome difficulties and face problems in their lives. Pupils and their Form Tutors take part in collective worship at assemblies once per week. Every Friday morning Mass is held in the school chapel with all students, our staff and members of the wider community invited to attend; attendance is good and this Mass is highly valued by those who attend. Catholic children as well as those of Christian heritage or no faith positively identify with our faith values and ethos. Pupils volunteer freely to participate in sacramental reconciliation. Pupils again give positive feedback, asking for more opportunities of this kind. The Chapel is built at the heart of the school, surrounded by gardens with seating areas for reflection and relaxation. The Chapel is available to staff and pupils all hours of the day.

Pupils enjoy retreats and visits to places of worship. They have opportunities to visit Castlerigg Manor and we also take advantage of Castlerigg Outreach Workshops held in school; pupils have opportunities to visit places of worship of other religions and at least 10 students visit Lourdes with the Diocese every year.

The school's Catholic and Christian education mission engenders a holistic educational experience. It enriches students' experiences leading to greater enjoyment and achievement at school and beyond. An example of this is pupils' tenacious drive to support eco and Fair Trade issues reflecting the Church's teaching on stewardship. Students make frequent positive contributions to the community both at school and the wider community. It creates a respectful and caring environment that promotes and celebrates academic achievement. Approximately 60% of places are taken by Catholic children. There has been an increase in the number of children from other faiths or none who are now attending the school; we encourage applications from families who identify with our inclusive ethos and recognise the excellent contribution children and families from non-denominational or no faith backgrounds make to our community. All children attending Cardinal Allen attend school liturgies regardless of faith background.





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The “Pick-up-a Book” scheme to encourage reading strengthens existing strategies to improve students’ literacy skills.

(OFSTED May 2012)

Engagement with parents and carers is effective and links with other agencies and institutions help to enhance the curriculum offer and to ensure that all students are well supported.

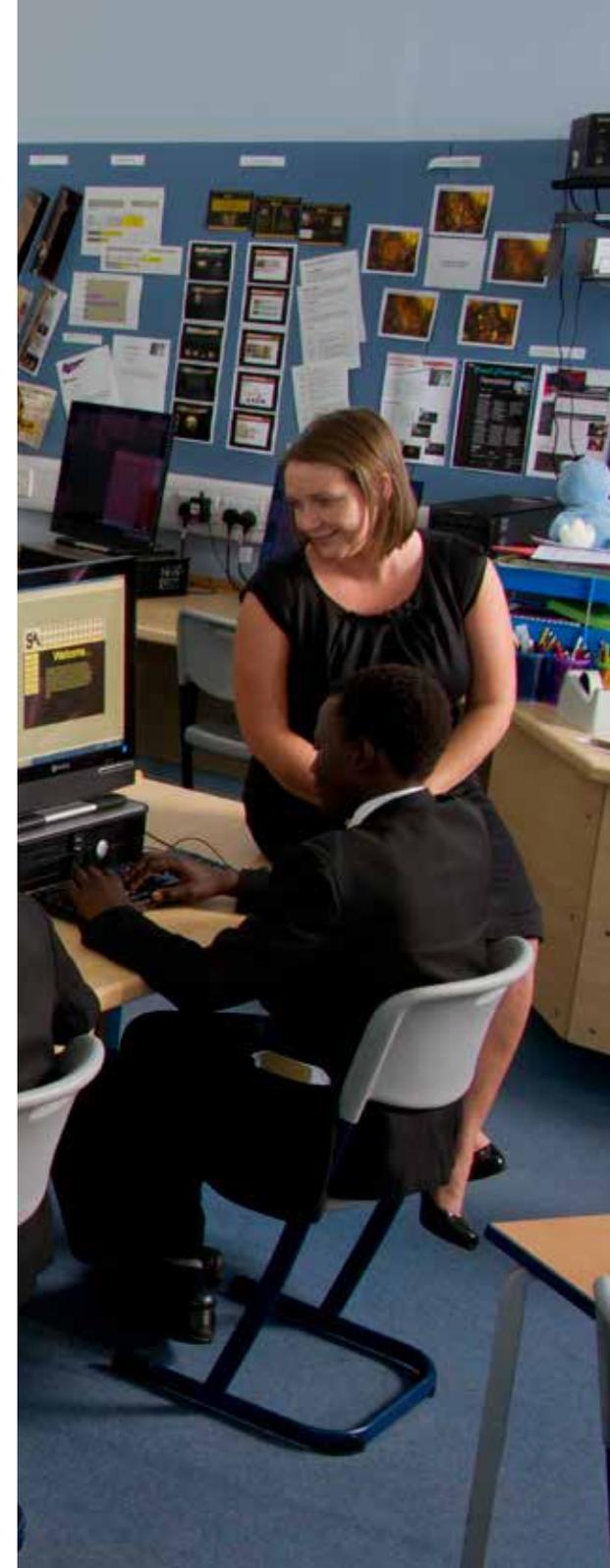
(OFSTED May 2012)

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SUPPORT & GUIDANCE

We place a high value on the needs of the individual child and pupils transferring to Cardinal Allen have access to this support even before they begin school in September. A broad range of cross-phase induction activities ensure that children gain familiarity with school so enabling all children to settle in quickly.

Pastoral support systems are strong and have significant impact on standards. The leadership of pastoral care presents an unswerving dedication to the maintenance of high standards with consequential high expectations for colleagues. Key personnel are a major factor in these high standards and the Progress Leader (Head of Year) and Pastoral Assistant for Year 7 will both provide daily support and guidance to all pupils. Form Teachers provide a first point of contact for pupils as they subsequently progress through school ensuring a smooth continuity of this care and guidance.





RICH AND EXCITING PROVISION beyond the classroom

Pupils attending Cardinal Allen are expected to join in and benefit from the many events, clubs, productions, sports activities, local educational visits and international visits provided as part of our extended curriculum. Experiences beyond the classroom have a major impact on a child's development and Cardinal Allen pupils shine in the rich tapestry of activities and events available.

There is an outstanding provision of residential trips available for pupils each year; these include Castlerigg, Kolkotta-India, Skiing in Switzerland, Northern France/Belgium-Battlefields, Berlin, Northern France-Markets/Cultural, London, Calvert Trust and Lourdes. In addition there are many and frequent day visits to centres of specific educational interest including museums, galleries, theatres, concerts and theme parks.

We strongly encourage pupils to take part in the many theatrical, dance and musical performances which form part of the annual cycle of cultural productions and our pupils regularly successfully compete in inter-school competitions and productions involving these performing arts.

Cardinal Allen's sporting reputation is outstanding and unusually high participation rates and the extensive variety of school sports are evidence of how much pupils enjoy these competitive and leisure activities. Our Football, Cricket and Rugby teams (boys & girls) have an enviable record of success in all age groups a comprehensive fixture list for Netball, Hockey, Rounders and Athletics allow for healthy competition in team games. Individuals are also supported with opportunities for local champions in running, ice-skating and tennis are given every encouragement and support. The second-to-none sports facilities greatly enhance pupils' experience and enrichment in this outstanding aspect of school life.





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Pupil quote:
I am very proud to wear the badge of Cardinal Allen on my blazer

Section 48 Inspection May 2012]

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CARDINAL ALLEN CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

THE SCHOOL

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DIOCESE OF LANCASTER AND
LANCASHIRE EDUCATION AUTHORITY