

St Olave's Grammar School SIAMS Inspection, 3-5 May 2017

We were delighted to receive the final report from the SIAMS inspector today. For those of you who do not have the time to read the full report I have quoted a few choice highlights:

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| Overall grade | Outstanding |
| The distinctiveness and effectiveness of St Olave's and St Saviour's Grammar School as a Church of England school | Outstanding |
| Meeting the needs of all learners through its distinctive Christian character | Outstanding |
| The impact of collective worship on the school community | Outstanding |
| The effectiveness of the religious education | Outstanding |
| effectiveness of the leadership and management of the school as a church school | Outstanding |

- Students and adults are incredibly proud of belonging to their school ... where relationships are strong and student behaviour is exemplary.
- Students' personal development and wellbeing are given a high priority.
- School leadership is strong, guiding and effectively driving forward developments.
- Christian underpinning is firmly embedded across school life, with students and staff readily articulating its importance in shaping relationships and in encouraging everyone to 'be the best you can be'.
- ...alongside their strong personal development and wellbeing, students are confident, well-mannered and considerate. They have a keen awareness of moral and social issues and a desire to 'make a difference in whatever small way you can' [and to be] a better, kinder person.
- ...incidents of less than good behaviour ... are dealt with compassionately through an effective pastoral support system
- [Students] are respectful towards each other and towards the staff.
- In response to a question about what he or she wanted to do on leaving, one student responded, 'I don't know yet but I'm sure the school will help me achieve it.'
- The value of worship in contributing to the school's Christian ethos is clearly recognised across the school community.
- 'Our 'thought for the day' gives time to think and reflect and to relate it to being in school, or to a problem or to simply appreciating others'.
- The themes ... are related very effectively to daily life and to taking responsibility for self and for others... [They] support high aspirations and encourage high levels of spiritual and moral reflection.
- 'There is a strong sense of being part of the community during assemblies in the Great Hall whether or not you are religious.'
- Standards of attainment and the progress made across RE are very high...with an appropriate balance between content that focuses on Christianity and that which addresses other world faiths, alongside ethical, moral and philosophical issues.
- Across the Sixth Form, students engage deeply with ethical and philosophical questions which are taught in challenging ways. Through effective teaching, students at all levels express their thoughts, beliefs and views in considerable depth.
- Under the strong leadership of the headmaster, ably supported by other senior leaders, governors and the chaplain, the school's Christian vision has been refreshed and consolidated.
- There is an effective Parents' Association that raises significant amounts of money to support different projects across the school.
- There are strong links with the Church of England Woodard Foundation. St Olave's leads their Oxbridge and Medics support programme, through for example, providing high quality lectures which are open to other schools.
- Governors are strongly committed to the school's Christian foundation and to securing its continued service to its diverse and highly academically able community. They...are well involved in school life [and] have secured the services of an outstanding part-time chaplain and very good leadership for RE through both the faculty and the subject specialist.

To view the full report please see our website: <http://www.saintolaves.net/siams>