


Liverpool Diocesan Board of Education

'Keeping On Track'

Supporting development in Church Schools

Name of School	ARCHBISHOP BLANCH CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL
Name of Inspector	Robert Haigh (660)
Date	5 May 2015
	Improvements made since last inspection
1.	The process of embedding the six espoused Christian values of community, compassion, forgiveness, friendship, thanksgiving and trust is well advanced. The SMSC policy is being revised.
2.	Significant developments in the Religious Education (RE) curriculum are taking place. A new Key Stage 3 scheme of work based on the diocesan framework 'Illuminating Pathways' has been introduced. It was implemented for Year 7 in 2014 with Year 8 following it from September 2015 and Year 9 subsequently. Curriculum time for RE has been increased in Key Stage 4 and the decision taken to enter students for GCSE at the end of Year 11 rather than Year 10. The intention is to develop a more comprehensive, robust and coherent provision to enhance the impact of RE as an academic subject as well as its contribution to students' spiritual development and the school's Christian character. The effectiveness of these changes is being kept under review.
	Agreed Current Strengths
1.	The visionary and dynamic leadership of the headteacher and her senior colleagues, strongly supported by governors, staff and the chaplain ensure that the school's Christian ethos has a strong impact on students' achievement and well-being.
2.	Very good relationships and an effective pastoral system are based on the Christian values of trust, compassion, forgiveness and friendship. They are reflected in the strong sense of community, the excellent behaviour of students and their high degree of care and concern for each other.

3.	Collective worship, at the centre of the school's life, is inclusive and valued by all. A rich and varied worship programme promotes students' spiritual development and enables them to express their own faith through action.
4.	Religious Education (RE), a well-led and popular core subject, has a high profile in the school and a proven track record of academic success. Attainment at GCSE and A2 is above national figures. RE makes an effective contribution to the school's Christian distinctiveness.
5.	The flourishing links with the church family and the local and wider community are mutually beneficial.
	Agreed areas for improvement
1.	Extend and secure opportunities for spiritual growth across the curriculum and throughout the entire life of the school community. Design the Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) Development policy to enable and reflect this.
2.	Ensure that the recruitment and deployment of RE teachers enables the continuing development of an effective departmental team. This will secure a high quality of teaching in all key stages for the continuation of the impressive standards of students' progress, attainment and achievement.
3.	Re-examine and enhance the school's strategic Christian purpose as an effective community partner following its September 2015 re-location in light of the new challenges and opportunities that will provide.
<i>Signed Headteacher</i>	
<i>Signed Inspector</i>	<i>Robert Haigh</i>