List of ‘Diocesan Expectations’ for Catholic School Inspection

Wrexham Diocese

June 2024

**Rationale:**  The following list describes expectations specific to this Diocese for the purpose of CSI. Deliberate non-compliance with these expectations triggers a ‘limiting judgment’ under the CSI Framework.

**General:**

1. Schools have signed and abide by the Diocesan Protocols governing the relationship between the Diocese and its schools.
2. Schools adhere to the Bishops' Memorandum on the appointment of staff in Catholic schools when recruiting and appointing staff.
3. Schools pay the Annual ‘service levy’ designed to finance existing and improved support provided by the Diocese of Wrexham Education Department.
4. Schools consider the interests of other Catholic schools and colleges and actively encourages pupils and students to progress to the designated Catholic secondary or post-16 provision.
5. Schools, including members of the Governing Body, participate actively in training and CPD offered by Wrexham Diocese, and in the ‘Professional Learning Programme’ offered jointly by the Dioceses of Cardiff, Menevia and Wrexham.
6. Schools use external speakers, especially in RE/RSE, only to supplement rather than replace a school’s provision of teaching. Where external speakers are used, the CES “Checklist for External Speakers to Schools” is completed by the appropriate officer in a school prior to contacting external speakers (and any organisation they represent). Records of completed forms are made available to the inspection team during S50 CSI inspections.

**Religious Education**

1. The CBCEW requirement of 10% of taught time for Religious Education (5% for post-16 General Religious Education) is fulfilled in line with the relevant CSI ‘Compliance’ criteria as contained in the CSI Framework document.
2. Authorised programmes of study are used as part of Curriculum RE and the requirements of the mandatory part of the 2022 RED (the ‘Systematic Presentation of Catholic Teaching’).

Examples of such programmes are:

* Primary: ‘Come and See’, ‘The Vine and the Branches’ , ‘Kip & Friends’.
* Secondary: ‘People of God‘ (Catholic Project), ‘Source to Summit’ (OUP) or, ‘Spirit and Life’ (Hodder);
* General RE:  Agored Cymru ‘Level 3 Extended Award in Religious Education Syllabus’ (St David’s College Programme).

1. At GCSE, AS and A level, approved WJEC papers and resources (Wales) or papers and resource fulfilling expectations issued by CBCEW (AQA, Edexcel/Pearson, Eduqas) (England) are used and the Year 11 cohort that is entered for GCSE English should be entered for the full course GCSE RS examination.
2. The school Governing Body has a named RE link governor working closely with the school’s RE lead.

**Prayer and Liturgy**

1. The provisions of the PLD form the basis of prayer and liturgy in the school.
2. The legal requirement of the Daily Act of Worship is fulfilled, with such worship reflecting the Catholic nature of the school and our tradition.
3. The prayer life of the school introduces and celebrates a range of ‘ways of praying’ and includes ‘Christian Meditation’ and the ‘Examen’.
4. The celebration of Mass is a regular part of the life of the school.
5. The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered to Catholic pupils and students at least once a year, and seasonally if possible, during Advent and Lent.

**Catholic Life and Mission**

1. The school maintains good parish, community and charity links that reflect the Catholic nature and ethos of the school and abides by Diocesan guidance to this effect.
2. Staff and governors regularly participate in Diocesan training and meetings with officers, and staff formation and CPD reflects and gives expression to the Catholic nature of the school.
3. The school has an up-to-date school policy on ‘Relationship and Sex Education’ in the prescribed format, uses approved and recommended resources to teach the prescribed Diocesan RSE Curriculum, and follows ‘best practice’ advice issued by the Diocese.
4. The school fulfils the requirements of the ‘Diocesan Chaplaincy Provision Guidance’ in a form appropriate to its setting where applicable.