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**PRESS RELEASE for immediate publication**

## **ST FRANCIS CATHOLIC PRIMARY STAFF ARE EXCELLENT ROLE MODELS**

St Francis Catholic Primary school, Nailsea, has been rated outstanding in its latest inspection by the Diocese of Clifton. The single form entry school, which serves the parishes of St Francis, Nailsea and the Immaculate Conception, Clevedon, was judged to be outstanding in all areas – its overall effectiveness, the outcomes for pupils, the provision of Catholic education and the effectiveness of leaders and governors in developing the Catholic life of the school.

The Report recognises pupils' pride in their school, commenting that they benefit significantly from its Catholic life, having many opportunities to take responsibility, and engaging wholeheartedly in what the school has to offer. They genuinely feel a part of the school family and have a good understanding of their role in serving the wider community which is reflected in the attitudes and respect they show one another. Children say, "We are trusted by our teachers." Prayer and liturgy are at the heart of everything the school does and are important in promoting and developing the mission of the school. It is an overwhelming strength and throughout the school there is a palpable sense of spirituality.

Staff are excellent role models for children and there is positive teacher-pupil rapport. All adults provide a positive climate for learning which enables pupils to share their views with confidence and display exemplary attitudes to learning.

Leaders and governors know their school well and are deeply committed to its mission and Catholic life. Leadership at all levels is active, evaluative and supportive with governors and clergy taking an active role.

Parents have a clear understanding of the Catholic life of the school and are extremely positive commenting, "It's child and parents approach gives a great community feel. Every child is known by name and everyone is important." They also highlight the strong Christian values and how the school enables all children to grow spiritually and morally. "Christian values are role modelled by all staff and nurture all the children. There is strong positive leadership by the head and a wonderful caring culture."

Head teacher, Caroline Hostein, said, "At St Francis' we put children at the centre of everything we do. I can not praise staff highly enough for their dedication, hard work and team effort and would like to thank them, parents, governors and, of course our children, for helping to create and sustain our flourishing school community."

Photos and more information on request to:

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