

Peer Review

On January 23rd 2025, St Swithun's Catholic Primary School underwent a Peer Review. We had Portsmouth City Council's Head of School Improvement and Early Years leading the review, and three team members on the Senior Leadership Teams (SLT) of local schools. Our main focus for the day was 'To what extent is learning maximised for all pupils?' We were able to look at this question through Maths, History, Geography, EYFS and music. Our own SLT and middle leaders worked with the Peer Review Team, on what was an extremely productive and positive day.

Below are some 'sound bites' from the report and Peer Review Team.

"Pupils at this school are extremely polite, well-motivated and ambitious in their learning across the curriculum. They are active listeners and a wide variety of strategies has supported them to take responsibility for their learning and achievement."

"Subject leadership and the work undertaken in planning, designing and implementing the curriculum in this school has been significant and is leading to positive outcomes in different curriculum subjects. This is a strength, and more experienced and confident subject leaders are mentoring others. Senior leaders are driving this work."

"There are high expectations for all pupils, from the youngest in pre-school, to pupils with SEND, those who come from different countries and cultures, to the most academically able."

"The school environment is calm and it is clearly a place where children come to learn and achieve."

"Children are eloquent, passionate and keen to learn. What a joyous school!"

"Pupils are incredibly enthusiastic about their learning."

"Teachers and support staff know pupils well and therefore when to support and extend, which makes curriculum provision and practice bespoke and personalised."

"Any inconsistencies and areas for development have already been identified by school leaders and are a part of their current and future work."

"Children's enthusiasm for learning is evident across the school."

"The children here are ambitious and want to achieve and learn the very most they can."