**Diocesan Education Service**

**Monitoring of Prayer Areas**

The prayer area is prominently placed within the room? Yes/No

The area is clean, dignified and well presented? Yes/No

The area reflects the current Liturgical Season and/or the current RE unit? Yes/No

An appropriate selection of religious objects are displayed? Yes/No

Other visual stimuli are being used to enhance the area? Yes/No

An age appropriate Bible/bible story is displayed? Yes/No

Appropriate prayers are displayed Yes/No

The prayer area is used regularly by adults and children? Yes/No

Comments/Areas for Development

Insert photo here

Location of Sacred Space:

Date of monitoring:

Carried out by:

Prepared by: teacher/TA/children

**Diocesan Education Service**

**Monitoring of Prayer Areas**

Location of Sacred Space: Is it in a classroom, a prayer room,

Insert photo here

a multi-purpose area, the hall?

Date of monitoring: Be prepared and aware of what time of

the Liturgical Year it is and what units of work are currently

being covered.

Carried out by: RE subject leader, SMT, link Governor,

Governor from Ethos & Mission Committee

Prepared by: teacher/TA/children Who is responsible

for the area? Are children being given opportunities

to help create the space for prayer?

The prayer area is prominently placed within the room? Yes/No

When you walk in the room can you immediately see the prayer area? Is it in a central position where children can gather/turn to face it? Is it at an accessible height for the children?

The area is clean, dignified and well presented? Yes/No

Does is look good? Is there anything on it which shouldn’t be there? Is it overly cluttered? Does it inspire the children and adults to enter into prayer?

The area reflects the current Liturgical Season and/or the current RE unit? Yes/No

Is the cloth the right colour? Does its tone reflect the season e.g. Lent = no flowers?

An appropriate selection of religious objects are displayed? Yes/No

Crucifx, statues, crosses, palms, Holy Water, Rosary Beads etc. But are people being selective enough? E.g. Are the Rosary beads always there? You may decide to list what is there so that you can compare it the next time monitoring is completed. Are there any multi-cultural Catholic images/objects? Is there a variety of crucifixes e.g. traditional, Crucifix of the Risen Lord, El Salvador Crucifix etc?

Other visual stimuli are being used to enhance the area? Yes/No

Are any signs and symbols on display e.g. stones for the desert in Lent), religious art, reflective poetry?

An age appropriate Bible/bible story is displayed? Yes/No

Is the Bible turned to an appropriate page (the reading of the day, from the Season, relating to the unit of work? Is it suitable for that age? Is it a presentation bible, a classroom bible or a bible story?

Appropriate prayers are displayed Yes/No

What prayers are displayed? Are they there permanently or seasonally? Are they the prayers children need to learn? Are they pertinent to the Season? Are there any of the children’s own prayers?

The prayer area is used regularly by adults and children? Yes/No

Do the children turn automatically to face it? Is there evidence of interaction i.e. prayer boxes, votive prayer book, questions to prompt thought/reflection?

Comments/Areas for Development

Diocesan Education Service

**Monitoring of School Buildings & Physical Signs of a Catholic School**

**Date of Monitoring:**

**Completed by:**

**School Signage:**

The sign says **Catholic** school Diocesan badge School badge/logo

Religious image on badge/logo Mission Prominent

Clean and attractive

**School Entrance:**

Welcoming Patron statue/image Crucifix

Bible/lectionary Prayers Mission

Catholic Life Information Key People Clean and attractive

**Hall:**

Crucifix Prayer Focus Liturgical Season

Mission Prayers Religious objects

**Corridors:**

Crucifix Patron statue/image Religious objects/images

Mission Catholic Life Information RE Displays

**Classrooms:**

Crucifix Prayer Focus Mission

RE Display

**Other Rooms/spaces:**

Crucifix Prayers

**Outdoor Areas:**

Catholic Life Information Prayer area/garden Religious objects/images

**Comments/Areas for Development/Actions Arising**

**Date for next monitoring:**

Diocesan Education Service

**Monitoring of School Buildings & Physical Signs of a Catholic School**

The purpose of this monitoring is to gather a general overview of the physical signs of a Catholic school. Other monitoring which is carried out, such as that of prayer areas, will be more in-depth. Please note that you may need to adapt this as the age and layout of buildings can sometimes prohibit what and how we present our Catholic faith e.g. narrow corridors wouldn’t allow the space for statues therefore religious images would be used.

**Date of Monitoring:**

**Completed by:** Different interest groups could complete this at different times e.g. Head and SMT, the Ethos and Mission Committee, the School Council. It is useful that a variety of people do this: those unfamiliar with the buildings see things with a fresh eye rather than as the daily ‘wallpaper;’ younger pupils have a completely different eye line to adults and will see things from a different perspective.

**School Signage:** Does the sign state that this is a Catholic school? Does it have the Diocesan badge on it? Does it contain the words of the Mission and are those words clearly Catholic rather than general e.g. mention of Jesus Christ, the Gospels etc.

Does the school badge/logo contain religious images of Christ or the school patron?

Is the signage in a prominent position?

Is it clean and attractive? Is all the information up-to-date?

**School Entrance:** Is theentrance welcoming? Is there a statue or image of the school patron? Is there a crucifix? Is there a Bible/lectionary on display turned to a relevant page? Is the Mission on display? Are there prayers (traditional or children’s own) on display. Is there a Holy Water stoup? Is there a board, folder or a screen for parents/visitors displaying information about the Catholic life of the school/parish e.g. newsletters, upcoming events, fundraising, Sacramental Preparation etc. Are there photos of key people e.g. The Pope, parish priest, head, staff, governors etc.?

**Hall:** Is there a crucifix? Is there a statue or image of the school patron or other saint? Is there a prayer focus which relates to the Liturgical Season?

**Corridors:** Are there crucifixes? Are there statues/images of the school patron and/or other saints? Is the Mission evident? Are there RE displays of children’s work from the current units of work? Is there information for the children about the Catholic Life of the school on display?

**Classrooms:** Are there crucifixes? Are there statues/images of the school patron and/or other saints? Is there a focus for prayer which is based on the relevant Liturgical Season and/or unit of work? Is the Mission evident? Are there RE displays of children’s work from the current units of work?

**Other Rooms:** Is there a crucifix in all other work rooms and spaces?

**Outdoor Areas:** Is there an information board for parents about the Catholic life of the school? Is there an outdoor prayer area/prayer garden. Are there any religious objects/ images e.g. mural

**Comments/Areas for Development/Actions Arising**

Are there any areas which require attention? Is there a cost to this? Who will be responsible? When will this happen?

**Date for next monitoring:**