

CARDINAL WISEMAN

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Old Oscott Hill
Kingstanding
Birmingham
B44 9SR



Headteacher: Mr R Swanwick B.Sc M.Ed

Tel: 0121 360 6383

Email: enquiry@cardinalwiseman.net

Website: www.cardinalwiseman.net

27th May 2022

Dear parent/carer,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School has gained the Rights Respecting Schools Silver Award. Our journey as a Rights Respecting School started on 24th June 2019 when we registered as school and we were successful in gaining the bronze award on 18th March 2020.



On Thursday 26th May, a range of staff and pupils met virtually with an assessor from Rights Respecting School, Unicef, United Kingdom to talk about what we do as school community.

This prestigious silver award, which only a few secondary schools in Birmingham have received, acknowledges the dedication of staff and pupils in our school to ensure that children's rights are an essential part of what we believe in.

Here are a selection of quotes from the report:

- ✓ Children know that the adults in school are responsible for ensuring that they learn about their rights and can access them. Pupils spoken with all said that they felt safe in school. They know who they would speak with if they had a concern for themselves or someone else commenting, *"We can always talk to a teacher about how we are feeling or if we felt unsafe or if something was worrying us."*
- ✓ *"We respect teachers and they respect us and our rights which makes it a nice environment to be in,"* said one pupil. Another commented, *"We've learnt about the right for people to have different identities and now I would do something about it if I saw someone being treated differently because of this."* Another spoke about the importance of learning about racism.
- ✓ *"We believe that teaching children about their rights demonstrates the value that we all place on our young people,"* commented one of the RRSA coordinators.
- ✓ *"All the teachers listen to us and we know that our ideas can help to make the school better,"* commented one pupil. Another described how, *"If you want something changing speak to a School Council member. They will then talk to the teachers at their meetings and tell us what they said."*
- ✓ The school is increasingly raising awareness of how its fundraising and charitable activities help to improve children's access to their rights locally and globally.
- ✓ Staff commented, *"The passion for children's rights is spreading throughout the school. Our Rights Respecting journey is making our pupils' world a little bit bigger. They are now more confident to discuss wider issues because of the knowledge they have about the CRC and are more confident that they can make change happen."*

At Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School, the personal development of children is paramount. As you know, the Wiseman Virtues are at the heart of our school. These virtues, alongside our work as a school that develops pupils'

character (recognised in our award as Kitemark School) and our commitment to being a Rights Respecting School clearly shows our fundamental aim to develop our children as good human beings who respect and celebrate diversity within a school environment where the child's voice is at the centre of everything.

In particular, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Miss Tierney and Mr Kerr. With great passion and drive, they are at the forefront in leading our whole school community on this Rights Respecting journey.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Beckett (Senior Assistant Headteacher)