

GREYFRIARS CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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Headteacher | Ms L Caldwell

A Catholic School that champions every student so that they flourish individually and collectively.

23rd May 2025

Dear Families

I am delighted to share with you the outcome of our recent Catholic Schools Inspection, which recognised the exceptional progress Greyfriars is making as a school rooted in faith, service, and ambition.

We were judged to be **Good** overall, but it is with pride that I can tell you we were judged **Outstanding** in two key areas:

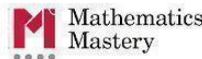
- **The provision for Catholic Life and Mission, and**
- **The leadership and governance of Religious Education.**

The judgments in these two important areas are a testament to the extraordinary commitment of our staff and the wholehearted engagement of our students. They reflect the strength of our community and the clear trajectory of ongoing improvement we are on as a school.

Inspectors noted and praised the sense of welcome, our strong and inclusive pastoral care and the purpose, and sense of belonging that defines life at Greyfriars. A particular highlight of the report is the praise given to our Head of Religious Education, Michaela Jelfs, for her ambitious and visionary leadership. She has led the development of our new RE curriculum and inspired colleagues with her commitment to excellence. The inspectors noted that students enjoy RE – many now say it is their favourite subject – and that teaching is both rigorous and joyful.

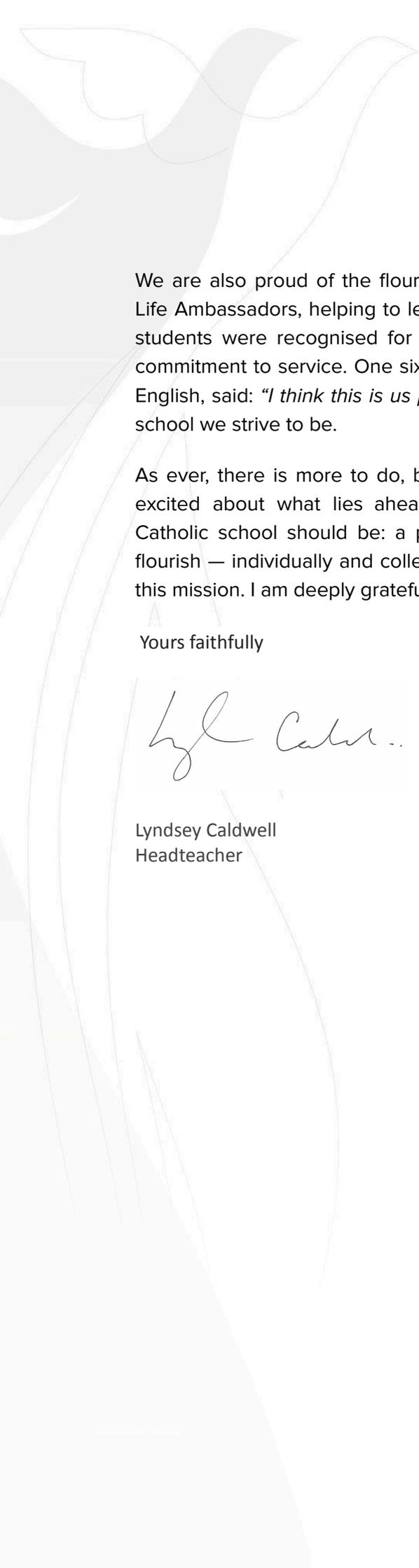
We were also especially commended for:

- The inclusive and pastoral nature of our school community, where students feel secure and valued.
- The inspirational impact of our Catholic Life and Mission Lead, Seth Greer, who has helped shape a rich and meaningful spiritual life for both staff and students.
- The way students lead on Catholic Social Teaching projects, such as supporting food banks, promoting well-being, and leading prayer and liturgy.
- The way staff *live out the Gospel* through everyday acts of kindness and service, modelling the 'Greyfriars Way' to students of all faiths and none.



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Providing outstanding education for our children with 'The Joy of the Gospel' at its heart.



We are also proud of the flourishing chaplaincy team, which now includes over 90 Catholic Life Ambassadors, helping to lead prayer, plan liturgies, and support our inclusive ethos. Our students were recognised for their warm hospitality, their engagement in prayer, and their commitment to service. One sixth former, speaking of how students support new arrivals with English, said: *“I think this is us practising Catholic Social Teaching.”* That’s exactly the kind of school we strive to be.

As ever, there is more to do, but we are proud of how far we have come, and even more excited about what lies ahead. This report affirms everything we believe about what a Catholic school should be: a place where young people are known, loved, and formed to flourish — individually and collectively. Thank you, as ever, for your partnership and support in this mission. I am deeply grateful to work with such a warm and caring community.

Yours faithfully



Lyndsey Caldwell
Headteacher