

*Henri Godefroy*

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I am a seminarian of the Diocese of Paris, working for a year as an assistant chaplain to the University of Cambridge. I have the opportunity to come to St Alban's Primary School every Thursday morning and sometimes for other events such as school Masses.

*Behaviour and attitude*

The staff (teachers, assistants, other adults) are very kind and attentive to the children. Teachers manage their classes very well, each according to their own temperament. This creates a very positive general atmosphere in which the children seem free, confident, and autonomous. I rarely witnessed any misbehaviour among the children and the staff were always present and responded appropriately.

*Understanding*

The life of the school is very strong and well structured (daily assemblies, prayers in the classrooms, rules for living together, presence of the staff...) This creates a great clarity: the role of each one is clear, the children understand very well what they have to achieve, how they have to behave, with whom they are in relationship. They are also encouraged to value and develop their own personality, and to interact positively with the others.

*Engagement*

I am particularly impressed by the attention given to the children who may have social or learning difficulties. The care of the staff shows a great commitment to the growth and well-being of the children.

*Prayerfulness*

The children pray in their class three times a day, and often come together for prayer assemblies, masses, and other services. This life of prayer is nourished by a strong religious education, an intensive preparation for the masses and events, and an emphasis on the religious & liturgical feasts. The staff, despite their diversity of belief, seems very committed to promoting this religious life of the classes and of the school. Some Y6 children are involved in promoting the prayer life by preparing and animating some moments of prayers. All of this is rather impressive and creates a very good space for the spiritual life of the children to grow.

*Respect for themselves and others*

The children are well dressed, polite and get on well with each other. They are able to work together and show care and respect for those who may have difficulties. They show good will to serve each other or the younger children.

*A comment on how much you enjoy coming to our school*

St Alban's is a very joyful place and I have been warmly welcomed. The atmosphere of prayer, study and happiness is communicative. The staff are supportive and willing to create opportunities for me to interact with the children and contribute, as much as I can, to this school.