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St Joseph's Catholic Primary School celebrates NACE Challenge Award accreditation

The **National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE)** has named **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School** the 64th school in Wales, the 448th school internationally, to be accredited with the **NACE Challenge Award**. The award is given in recognition of school-wide commitment to high-quality provision for more able and talented learners, within the context of challenge for all.

NACE CEO Sue Riley said: *"St Joseph's Catholic Primary School has worked hard to attain accreditation through the NACE Challenge Award. It has shown itself to be committed to developing an environment in which all learners are challenged and supported to be the best they can be."*

The award is based on the NACE Challenge Framework, which sets out criteria for high-quality provision for more able and talented learners within a wider ethos of challenge for all. The framework is available as part of the NACE Challenge Development Programme – a suite of resources developed by NACE to help schools evaluate and improve their provision for more able and talented learners.

Improving provision for the more able remains a priority for many schools and has been highlighted by Ofsted as a key focus. The experience and evidence gathered by Challenge Award-accredited schools also shows that effective strategies to improve provision for the more able are likely to have a positive impact on the achievement of a much wider group of learners.

To attain the Challenge Award, schools must complete a detailed self-evaluation using the NACE Challenge Framework, submit a portfolio of supporting evidence, and undertake assessment by a NACE associate. The assessment process includes examination of school data and key documents; lesson observations; and interviews with school leaders, learners, parents and governors.

CEO Sue Riley said, *"The award is presented in recognition of whole-school commitment to and achievement in providing effective challenge and support for all – spanning school leadership, curriculum, teaching and learning, processes for identification and tracking, extracurricular opportunities, strong communication and partnerships, and ongoing evaluation."*

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School will now be invited to join the NACE Leading Schools Network, a community of schools which have demonstrated a sustained and effective commitment to meeting the needs of more able and talented learners, and an interest in sharing expertise for the wider benefit of the education community.

Find out more: www.nace.co.uk/challenge

Notes for editors

The National Association for Able Children in Education (NACE) is the UK's leading charity dedicated to supporting schools and teachers across every aspect of provision for more able and talented learners, in the context of challenge for all. Drawing on over 35 years' experience in the field, NACE is at the forefront of thought leadership and evidence-based policy for the more able, with NACE member schools leading the way in implementing best practice.

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