



Catholic Life Policy

January 2019

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'Hand in hand with Jesus Christ we live, love and learn together.'

This mission statement is the foundation stone on which we build The Catholic Life of the School and we aim to achieve our mission by:

- Establishing, maintaining and developing a Catholic ethos which is permeated in everything we do and is apparent to all those who enter the school.
- Providing frequent opportunities for conscious and active participation in collective worship.
- Creating a place of learning where faith is central.
- Providing an enriched curriculum which is creative, inspiring and inclusive for all pupils.
- Being an outreaching centre of God's mission on earth in promoting the virtues of faith, hope and charity.
- Ensuring that the Gospel values are permeated through all policies which include inclusion, behaviour, curriculum etc.
- Developing children's understanding of vocation, that God created each person for a unique and special purpose.
- Supporting the Sacramental Programme within the Parish.
- Aiming to bring about an awareness of the needs of others.
- Developing links with the parish, diocese and wider community.

Developing the Prayer and Spiritual Life of all Members of our School.

- Providing children with the skills to develop their own prayer life - through the reading of the Scriptures, music, drama, dance and prayer.
- Providing opportunities for reflection.
- Developing the environment - each classroom in the school has a crucifix, prayer focus area which reflects the liturgical year and has relevant Christian symbols.
- Training Prayer Monitors; who are chosen in each class from Year 1 – Year 6. They take the lead in organising the prayer focus and leading class prayers throughout the day. They receive training from our chaplains throughout the year.

Collective Worship

The day is punctuated with prayer. Teachers and pupils pray at the beginning of the school day, lunchtime and end of the school day. Opportunities for Collective Worship include whole school and key stage/Year group:

Monday: Whole School Assembly led by the Headteacher

Tuesday: KS2 Liturgy (alternate LKS2/UPKS2)

Wednesday: Achievers Assembly

Thursday: KS1 Liturgy

Friday: Mass/Year Group Assembly & Hymn Practice

Regular opportunities are provided to celebrate the Eucharist.

Holy Week preparations take place in school with Key stage 2 re-enacting events throughout the week. Year 4 – ‘Entry into Jerusalem’, Year 5 – ‘The Last Supper’, Year 6 – ‘The Crucifixion’ and Year 3 – ‘The resurrection. The ‘Passover’ is also re-enacted with the whole school where all pupils actively participate in eating, drinking and singing.

Parental Involvement

- Parents are the first teachers of their children and we work in partnership with them. They are encouraged to support the Religious Education lessons by helping their children complete homework tasks and discuss with their children work being completed when preparing to receive the Sacraments.
- We provide information on The Journey of Love (RSE) and meet with parents at consultation evenings.
- Parents are very welcome at a variety of school events eg assemblies, special celebrations including; Advent, Holy Week, Year 6 Leaver’s Mass and Year group Masses throughout the school year.
- Parents are encouraged to share their views through parent forum meetings and questionnaires.

Giving to Others

- We aim to bring about an awareness of the needs of others. A timetable of charitable support for the year is created in September after consultation with the Liturgy Team. This includes local, national and overseas charities.
- Children are always encouraged to help each other as well as their parents, teachers and other people in our community. It is our aim that our whole school ethos is one that will foster and nurture a generous giving of self, an appreciation and respect for one’s own property and that of others.

Date: January 2019