

# St John's Catholic Primary School



## **SPIRITUAL AND MORAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY**

*“Christ is the Centre of our School Community where we live, love and learn together”*

### **Aims**

- to develop an understanding of insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values which guide and motivate us. As a Catholic School we seek to promote the Christian values of friendship, compassion and forgiveness
- to offer a wealth of experiences which enables a pupil to develop their understanding
- to develop opportunities for pupils to show that their insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values influence, inspire and guide them in life
- to develop an understanding of moral behaviour in line with our Mission Statement which enables pupils to live out the gospel value of love in many ways such as forgiveness, freedom, tolerance, respect and relationships
- to develop the opportunities for music, ensuring it is an integral part of the liturgy taught in the school, by having weekly hymn practice.

### **We aim to enhance the children's spiritual development through:**

- the delivery of 'Come and See' programme and celebration of feasts and seasons within the Christian calendar and that of other faiths and cultures
- the Mission Statement, PHSE. Assemblies, reinforcing positive behaviour – we will help the pupils to develop a respect for themselves and others
- engendering a sense of empathy with others through Circle Time and SEAL, through links with other schools and through fund raising
- creating an environment of trust, care and compassion
- enriching the children's understanding by providing opportunities for reflection on all aspects of school life
- enhancing the pupils' appreciation for beauty, truth, love, goodness and wonder in our delivery of the curriculum as a whole in our Catholic school where, as a staff, we seek to support one another in this goal
- seeking to help the pupils to understand how the impact of their feelings and emotions affects their behaviour and impacts on the feelings and emotions of others

- the Behaviour Policy and Anti Bullying Policy which provide a clear moral code that is promoted consistently throughout the school and is reinforced through classroom rules and acceptable playground behaviour
- our Mission Statement aims, which encourage the wider school community to be inclusive and to promote measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and other criteria
- celebrating the uniqueness of each individual and tailoring the learning and teaching environment to enable all to achieve their full potential and engender within them the importance of equality of opportunity for all
- praise and reward for good behaviour and acts of kindness
- assemblies and acts of worship which provide models of moral virtue through gospel readings, the message of which is explored with the children, stories about significant role models to inspire the children and stories with a strong moral theme
- reinforcing the school's values through images, posters, exhibitions and classroom displays

#### **Pupils' development will be evidenced by**

- Continuous assessment within RE
- Pupil involvement in the life of the school and the wider community
- Atmosphere of care within the school
- Faith Friends extra-curricular club
- School council
- Children leading assemblies such as Harvest Festival, Advent, Christmas, First Communion, Lent, Easter, Confirmation as well as class / year assemblies and collective worships

#### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

We understand the spiritual and moral development of pupils is the responsibility of the whole school community. We aim to ensure that this policy is adopted by all through:

- Staff meetings
- Key stage meetings
- Governors meetings- including the Head teachers report
- Parents' meetings
- Links with community and Parish
- Monitoring of pupils work
- Pupil interviews

#### **Policy Monitoring and Review:**

This policy is monitored by the RE co-ordinator and is evaluated and reviewed by the whole school staff and governors annually.