



# **St. John Fisher Catholic** **Primary School**

*Growing through God, we learn, laugh and  
love.*

## **Moral, Social and Cultural** **Policy**

- Date of review : March 2019
- Member of Staff responsible : RE Co-Ordinator Clare Hodgkins
- Date of next review : March 2021

### **St John Fisher Primary School Moral, Social and Cultural Policy**

At St John Fisher Catholic Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, plays a vital part in their ability to learn and achieve. Within the ethos of our school, we provide an education that provides pupils with opportunities to explore and develop their own values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive, caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of different cultures.

### **St John Fisher Catholic Primary School is a place of learning:**

#### **Aims :**

to create an ethos that allows our mission statement to grow:

- the Gospel values of Jesus Christ being the centre of all we do and how these permeate our whole way of life
- in which each individual is encouraged to fulfil their own unique potential
- everyone is a special individual and should be treated with respect
- we prepare everyone to take their place in society and to make a positive contribution

#### **Objectives:**

- create a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment
- create an inclusive community where all members are valued
- share a commitment towards the pursuit of high standards and understand their role in achieving them
- to develop a supportive and challenging environment, where expectations in achievement and personal relationships are high between all members
- deliver a balanced and broad curriculum, where children can achieve, enjoy and develop self-esteem
- develop children's skills, knowledge and confidence, enabling them to make a positive contribution to multi-cultural society
- achieve a dynamic interaction between home, school, parish

and the wider community to ensure the needs of all members of the school family are met.

### **Moral Development.**

“Proper regard should be given to the process of moral development of the young. It is not enough that we inform them of the Church’s teaching. We must try to help them appreciate the values embraced in such teaching.”

*Our School and Our Faith’ Jim Gallagher*

In order to fulfil this statement:

- We strive to present a whole curriculum where opportunities for developing pupil’s awareness of moral choices
- Specific ‘Come and See’ themes offer moral teaching
- Specific SRE programme to give children the factual information and ability to make informed decisions within the context of the church’s teachings
- We strive to deal with children in day-to-day situations helping them develop moral and social consciences recognising the difference between right and wrong- (See Code of Conduct)
- Pupils are encouraged to value themselves and others
- We strive to set clear guidelines with regard to standards of behaviour. Pupils and parents/carers have developed a code of conduct and adhere to code of conduct for the good of everyone. The School’s code of conduct reflects, reiterate, promotes and rewards positive behaviour and provide opportunities to celebrate pupils’ work and achievement which allows our Mission statement to be lived
- We encourage children from all backgrounds to make decisions based on the Gospel Values which underpin all we do.

### **Social and Cultural Development**

Our understanding of social and cultural education is based on the Gospel teaching of justice, freedom and peace. To promote social and cultural development, we provide opportunities for pupils to:

- develop an understanding of their individual and group identity
- learn about service in the school and wider community
- develop their roles as citizens - - Play ground buddies – shoe boxes – CAFOD, Good Shepherd, Mission Together, Food Bank etc.
- begin to understand the Christian responsibility for social justice

- concern for the less fortunate
- be taught to appreciate their local environment and to develop a sense of responsibility
- recognise the value and richness of cultural diversity in Merseyside, Britain, and the world and how these influence individuals and society

The 'Come and See' programme acknowledges that we live in a multi-faith, multi-cultural society and makes links with the experience of other faiths. Twice a year, during one week a full day is spent exploring the experience of other faith traditions. We explore Judaism and Hinduism which are enriched by visitors from other Faiths and trips to places of worship. This develops respect of and for other cultures and religions.

Visitors are encouraged and welcomed into school to enhance the pupil's understanding of the wider community.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

Provision for SMSC is monitored and reviewed on a regular basis. This is achieved by:

- Monitoring of lesson plans, teaching and learning and books, by RE Co-ordinators and SLT
- Regular discussion at staff and governors' meetings
- Sharing of classroom work and practice
- Regular inclusion on School Improvement Plan

This policy has been approved and adopted by staff and Governors.

Signed ..... (Chair of Governors)      Date .....

Signed ..... (Headteacher)      Date .....