

St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery 'Learning, Growing and Living with Jesus'



Spiritual, Moral, Cultural, Mental and Physical Development Policy (SMSC)

Introduction

St. Anthony's Catholic Primary School and Nursery aims to deliver spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development in line with Diocesan guidance, fundamental British values, the National Curriculum and in keeping with its mission:

Learning, Growing and Living with Jesus

Thus we aim:

- to meet requirements for collective worship, establishing a strong school ethos supported by effective relationships throughout the school
- to support the rule of English civil and criminal law and not teach anything that undermines it
- to promote the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs, and those with no faith
- to use teaching resources from a wide variety of sources to help pupils understand a range of faiths
- to enable children to become healthy, independent and responsible members of British society.
- to encourage our pupils to play a positive role in contributing to the life of the school and the wider community; in doing so we develop their sense of self worth
- to further tolerance and harmony between different cultural traditions by enabling students to acquire an appreciation of and respect for their own and other cultures
- to include in suitable parts of the curriculum, as appropriate for the age of pupils, how British society is organised and governed by enabling students to acquire a broad general knowledge of and respect for public institutions and services in England, in contrast to other forms of government in other countries
- to ensure that all pupils within the school have a voice that is listened to and they experience the process of democracy in school through the school council

- to help pupils develop an understanding of their rights and responsibilities linked to the UNICEF Rights Respecting Agenda and to learn to appreciate what it means to be a positive member of a diverse multicultural society.

Objectives

We enable the children to:

- have respect and tolerance for people of all faiths, races and cultures
- understand that the freedom to choose and hold other faiths and beliefs is protected in law
- accept that other people having different faiths or beliefs to oneself (or having none) should be accepted and tolerated, and should not be the cause of prejudicial or discriminatory behaviour
- understand the importance of identifying and combatting all forms of discrimination against individuals or groups
- understand what makes for good relationships with others and develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community
- accept responsibility for their behaviour, show initiative, and to understand how they can contribute positively to the lives of those living working in the locality of the school and to society more widely
- develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues
- understand how British citizens can influence decision-making through the democratic process
- appreciate that living under the rule of law protects individual citizens and is essential for their wellbeing and safety
- be independent and responsible members of the school community
- become a positive and active member of a democratic society, understanding that while different people may hold different views about what is 'right' and 'wrong', all people living in England are subject to its law
- know and understand what constitutes a healthy lifestyle
- be aware of safety issues

Implementation

It is the responsibility of all staff to implement the policy.

We encourage all the children to have equal opportunity to take part in a range of practical activities to promote active citizenship, e.g. charity fund raising, school council, monitors and buddies and the planning of school special events such as assemblies and regular circle times. We use a range of teaching and learning styles and place emphasis on active learning through discussions, investigations and problem solving activities.

Pupils are encouraged to participate in discussions to resolve conflicts. They are also given the opportunity to set agreed classroom 'golden rules' charters for behaviour. Guest speakers are invited to the school to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community. These include representatives from other faiths, police and youth offending team, health workers, sports personalities, road safety and members of the parish.

Links with other subjects

We teach spiritual, moral, social, personal and cultural development in a variety of different ways. It is taught through regular circle times and reflection. It is taught through many of the Diocesan religious education topics. In some instances we introduce it through other subjects. Through our creative curriculum it is linked to English, Mathematics, Science, History, Geography, Art and Design, ICT, Design Technology and Physical Education. Sometimes this subject is taught as a discrete subject e.g. drugs education as part of a focus week on Healthy Lifestyle.

British citizenship is taught principally through both class and school council. Members meet weekly to discuss school matters and to decide outcomes. Year 6 pupils learn about civil rights through their creative curriculum topic 'Freedom'. Older pupils are given the opportunity to take part in two residential field trips. This helps to foster their leadership, co-operative and independence skills.

At Foundation Stage

It is taught in nursery and reception classes as an integral part of the topic work covered during the year. The curriculum follows the objectives set out in the Early Learning Goals. Our teaching is in line with and matches the aims of personal, emotional and social development as well as knowledge and understanding of the world early learning goals. It is also encompassed in our religious education themes.

Assessment and Recording

Teachers assess the children's work both by making informal assessments as they observe pupils during lessons and by doing assessments of their work, measured against the specific learning objectives set out in the National Curriculum. We have clear expectations of what the pupils will know, understand and be able to do at the end of each key stage. Teachers record the achievements of pupils and report these achievements to parents through the year. At key stage two children are also awarded merits, letters and certificates for outstanding contributions to the school community.

Monitoring and Review

The Headteacher and Assistant in consultation with the Chaplaincy and Pupil Voice teams will monitor the effectiveness of the policy and report to the Academy Committee.

The policy will be reviewed regularly.

Reviewed January 2015