

Moral Development Policy for St Peter's Catholic Primary School.

Our Mission Statement:

St. Peter's Catholic Primary School is at the heart of a Christ-centred community where every person's uniqueness is celebrated with joy, and is truly valued. We foster caring, supportive relationships based on mutual respect and love. We embrace the different communities to which we all belong – home, school and parish, as well as our local, national and global families. When we welcome the child, we welcome the family. We strive for excellence in all we do, to be the very best that we can be.

“Love one another as I have loved you,” John 13: 34

Aims

To enable pupils to develop a sense of morality, to acquire value systems, and to gain an understanding that their behaviour and actions should derive from these beliefs and values.

At St Peter's Catholic Primary School, we encourage our young people in their early years by providing them with a moral framework within which to operate, and by helping them to decide what is right and wrong.

The gospel value of “Love one another as I have loved you,” is lived out in the daily life of the school in many ways including:

- Forgiveness
- Justice
- Tolerance
- Respect
- Relationships

Ofsted defines the essence of moral development as, “... the ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives...to respect the civil and criminal law of England ... to understand the consequences of their behaviour and actions ... to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others...”

This involves:

- Extending pupils' knowledge and understanding of the range of accepted values in society.
- Developing pupils' skills and attitudes, such as decision making, self-control, consideration of others, having the confidence to act in

accordance with one's principles and thinking through the consequences of their actions.

- Promoting, at an appropriate level, pupils' understanding of basic moral philosophy and the skill of analysis, debate, judgement and application to contemporary issues.

These skills and qualities are modelled and developed through the relationships that adults build with children at St. Peter's. Our Catholic ethos and our embrace of fundamental British Values ensure that these qualities are apparent to all. Staff are aware of the PREVENT Duty, and have undergone Channel training, in order to raise awareness of how to protect our children and colleagues from radicalisation.

Pupils who are becoming morally aware are likely to be developing some or all of the following characteristics:

- An ability to distinguish right from wrong, based on knowledge of the moral codes of their own and other cultures.
- Confidence to act consistently in accordance with their own principles.
- An ability to think through the consequences of their own and others' actions.
- A willingness to express their views on ethical issues and personal values.
- An ability to make responsible and reasoned judgements on moral dilemmas.
- A respect for the needs, feelings and interests of others, as well as their own.
- A desire to explore their own and others' views.

At St Peter's Catholic Primary School, we encourage our pupils' moral development through:

- Providing a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour.
- Preventing discrimination on the basis of race, gender, sexual orientation, age, marriage and civil partnership, disability, gender reassignment, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity.
- Giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values.
- Developing an open and safe learning environment.
- Recognising and valuing the special qualities of each pupil.
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their own actions.
- Providing models of moral virtue through literature, arts, assemblies and acts of worship.
- Re-enforcing the school's values through images, posters, classroom displays and the 'Good to be Green' behaviour system.

- Encouraging the children to choose prayer and fundraising activities for people who may need our help – bearing in mind our school motto, ‘In the love of god and neighbour.’
- Teaching the CAFOD Universal Church units within our RE curriculum.

We aim to help pupils to listen to their conscience and to do what is right out of love for others, respect for themselves and regard for the world in which they live.

At St Peter’s Catholic Primary School, we also aim to develop the morality of our children through:

- The distinct nature ethos.
- Curriculum subjects, especially Religious Education
- Working through ‘The Way, The Truth and The Life’ scheme in Religious Education
- Prayer and liturgy
- Discussion during circle time.
- Pupil Leadership Team meetings.
- Philosophy for Children
- PSHE – Jigsaw scheme of work
- Incorporating principles of Catholic Social Teaching into our teaching of Religious Education
- Monitoring spiritual, moral social and cultural development at senior leadership level through subject reports to governors

Our Religious Education Policy explains what we do and how we do it.

Our Assessment Policy explains how we evaluate and assess the children’s work.

Our Prayer Policy explains how we provide quiet times of prayer and reflection for our children, encouraging them to reflect on what is right and what is wrong through bidding and sorry prayers.

Our whole school and departmental assemblies encourage us all to gather together to pray, to appreciate a quiet time together, and to acknowledge the individual qualities and assets of our children, while often reflecting what is right and wrong and why. Headteacher-led assemblies incorporate teaching from the long-term plan for PSHE and RE, and as such, deliver themes such as wellbeing,

celebrating difference and taking care of each other. 'In the love of God and neighbour' is said by the school community at the end of each prayer.

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(Taken from our Mission Statement)

S.Sibson in consultation with staff- May 2022

Review Date: May 2025