**St Edmund’s & St Thomas’ Catholic Primary School**

**Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development**

*‘Love Learn and Live Like Jesus’*



**School’s Mission Statement**

“I have come that they should have life and have it to the full.”

John 10:10

Inspired by the teachings of Christ, Saint Edmund’s and Saint Thomas’ Catholic Primary school encourages and guides our pupils and all our school community to have a strong sense of service, love and compassion. In this way, they are encouraged to develop a vision for what they want to achieve with a zest for living life to the full.

At St Edmund’s and St Thomas’ Catholic Primary School we recognise that the personal development of pupils, spiritual, morally, socially and culturally development, 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 Edmund’s and St Thomas’ Catholic Primary School is a place of learning:**

**Aims :**

* To build up a Christian community which develops the spiritual, emotional intellectual and physical potential of each and every pupil in the happy, caring supportive, family atmosphere of a Catholic School.
* 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 values of friendship, compassion and forgiveness.
* to create an ethos that allows our mission statement to grow
* 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 our Christ’s commandment to love one another in many ways such as forgiveness, freedom, tolerance, respect and relationship.
* 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
* The delivery of ‘Come and See’ and celebration of feasts and seasons within the Christian calendar and that of other faiths and cultures.
* The mission statement, PSHE Association, Achievement Assemblies, reinforcing positive behaviour (whole school charter) -we will help the pupils to develop a respect for themselves and others
* Engendering a sense of empathy with others through circle time, fund raising eg CAFOD
* 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.
* 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
* 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.
* 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 RSE programme to give children the factual information and ability to make informed decisions within the context of the church’s teachings (Journey in Love which school will follow)
* 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/ Ten:Ten daily prayer of liturgy)
* 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.
* At the beginning of year school year children take part in a Mission Week and to put together a ‘Class Charter’ of how we live out our school mission.

**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 buddies/ Peer mentoring – CAFOD, McMillan, Mission Together, Food Bank…
* 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, one week is spent exploring the experience of other faith traditions. We explore Judaism and Islam 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-ordinator and SLT
* Regular discussion at staff and governors’ meetings
* Sharing of classroom work and practice
* Regular inclusion on School Improvement Plan

**Policy Monitoring and Review**

This policy will be monitored, evaluated and reviewed bythe RE Coordinator, the SMT and the Governing Body. (Last reviewed September 2021)