

Christ the King Catholic Primary School



“Making a difference by
Inspiring a love of life and learning
We build strong foundations within
God’s loving hands”

DRAFT

Catholic Life Policy

Authors		Mary Mainwaring/Rosie Yemm	
Date approved by Teaching & Learning Committee	Jan 23	Chair of Committee	Angela Willan
Date ratified by Full Governing Body		Chair of Governors	Mary Baskerville and Gill Brooks
Start Date	Jan 23	Headteacher	Mary Mainwaring
Review Date	Jan 24		

School Mission Statement

Our Mission at Christ the King Catholic Primary School is to

“Making a difference by
Inspiring a love of life and learning.
We build strong foundations within
God’s loving hands”

School Values

Our school values are - Respect, Honesty, Courage, Compassion, Perseverance, Responsibility, with God’s love, forgiveness and kindness at the centre of all that we do.

Rationale

Through the teaching of the Roman Catholic faith within our school, we seek to encourage and promote the religious and spiritual growth and development of all children attending Christ the King Catholic Primary School.

The Roman Catholic faith is central to the life of our school and permeates throughout the whole curriculum and all decision making and other aspects of school life.

The Spiritual Life of our School

We aim to develop the spiritual life of everyone within our community, regardless of their beliefs. We provide spiritual development for pupils and staff alike, and invite our families to develop spiritually in connection with the school and parish.

- All pupils and staff have the opportunity for daily collective worship. This is either a class or a whole school act of worship.
- Children plan and lead class liturgies weekly.
- The school environment supports spiritual development through a crucifix in every classroom and in communal areas, prayer corners, displays reflecting the Liturgical Year and other religious images and symbols.
- Teaching the children when and how to be reverent and when and how to show the joy of their faith through collective worship, songs, words and actions.
- The opportunity to be part of the Chaplaincy Team
- Providing and fostering opportunities for prayer
- Each class has one Class Mass every year which they are involved in

Prayer Life of the School

Prayer has an important role in our Religious Education as a means of expressing, fostering and nurturing faith. We aim to create and maintain an environment where this is developed. Our classrooms, work areas, corridors and school entrance are welcoming, bright and stimulating so that the Catholicity of the school is being lived out through our surroundings. Children are encouraged and helped to discover the many different ways in which to pray, formal and informal, private and communal.

They are encouraged to be still and listen to God in a variety of ways:

- Daily prayers in class: morning prayer, prayer before and after lunch, home time prayer
- Traditional prayers are taught, alongside those written by significant individuals

- Prayer areas are in every classroom
- The Chapel is open every lunchtime, with Wednesday Worship led by the Chaplaincy Team
- The Prayer Garden is open daily for the children to use at break and lunchtime
- Pupils are taught how to write their own prayers of asking, thanking, praising and saying sorry.

Chaplaincy Team

Our Chaplaincy Team consists of children from Years 5 and 6. Their role is to support their peers to grow in their faith. Their work is based under the 3 main areas of

Strengthening Mission

- Organising fundraising events throughout the year
- Angel of the Week
- Helping in our Parish and in our local community
- Being good role models for the rest of the school

Deepening Prayer

- Organising and leading Wednesday Worship
- Rosary Club in May and October
- Organising and running our Lent Trail
- Develop prayer areas throughout the school
- Monitor class prayer sessions across the school
- Develop and encourage children to use the Prayer Garden

Enabling Communion

- Develop our links with the Parish
- Joint retreats and events with other Catholic schools
- Run assemblies, write in school and Parish newsletters

Giving to Others

We aim to develop and harness an awareness of the needs of others: locally, nationally and globally, and foster a spirit of generosity and compassion.

There are various fundraising events throughout the year co-ordinated by the Chaplaincy Team:

- Harvest – children are encouraged to bring in food for our local foodbanks.
- At Remembrance, we sell poppies and related merchandise to raise funds for the Royal British Legion.
- In Advent, a charity of the pupils' choosing is supported through fundraising events
- During Lent we raise funds for those less fortunate than ourselves
- We give flowers to our local care home after our Crowning of Mary Service.
- We try to respond to world events with compassion and prayer.
- We also raise funds for a variety of causes throughout the year such as Cancer Research through cake sales and other initiatives.
- We try to give of our time to help those in our community

Children are always encouraged to help each other as well as their parents, teachers and other people in the community. Our mission of 'Making a Difference' aims to foster and nurture a generous giving of self, and an appreciation and respect for others.

Parental Involvement

Parents are the first teachers of their children and we work in partnership with them.

Parents are invited to attend a variety of school events throughout the year, which include: class assemblies, curriculum meetings, whole school Masses and liturgies which take place throughout the year both in school and at Christ the King Church and events such as the Carol Service.

Parents are encouraged to join the PTFA to help organise and host a range of events for our school

community. All funds raised support the development and enhance the provision we offer for our pupils and families.

Parents are encouraged to share their views through questionnaires, as well as at parent curriculum meetings and parents' evenings. Christ the King operates an open-door policy.

Parish Links

Links with the local Parish are a vital part of Catholic Life in school.

The Parish that serves our school is Christ the King and Wootton our parish priest is Fr George.

Parishoners are welcomed to celebrate Mass with us at school and this is well attended. They also support us with the music for Mass. The whole school walk down to the Church to celebrate Christ the King Feast Day Mass.

Children visit the church to look at the different aspects and features of a church. Father George also supports the teaching of the RE curriculum in school by coming in to talk to children and staff about various topics. Volunteers from the Parish come into school to hear children read and a number of our children are altar servers at Church.

We also share with our school community communications from Father George in order to encourage attendance at church and involvement in church events. We contribute to the Parish Bulletin and have a school noticeboard at the Church. The Parish prepares our children for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion and we support them with this. ۞

School Environment

Every effort is made to provide a spiritually uplifting, stimulating and aesthetically pleasing environment within our school.

- All rooms have a crucifix.
- All rooms have a prayer area which the children use regularly
- Our Mission Statement is displayed in every classroom, as are our school values.
- Displays within each classroom reflect the 'God Matters' topic being taught, the Liturgical Season, work produced by the pupils, key prayers and scripture.

Monitoring the Catholic Life of the School

Monitoring is carried out by learning walks and pupil conferencing,

Signed _____ **Chair of Governors**

Signed _____ **Head teacher**