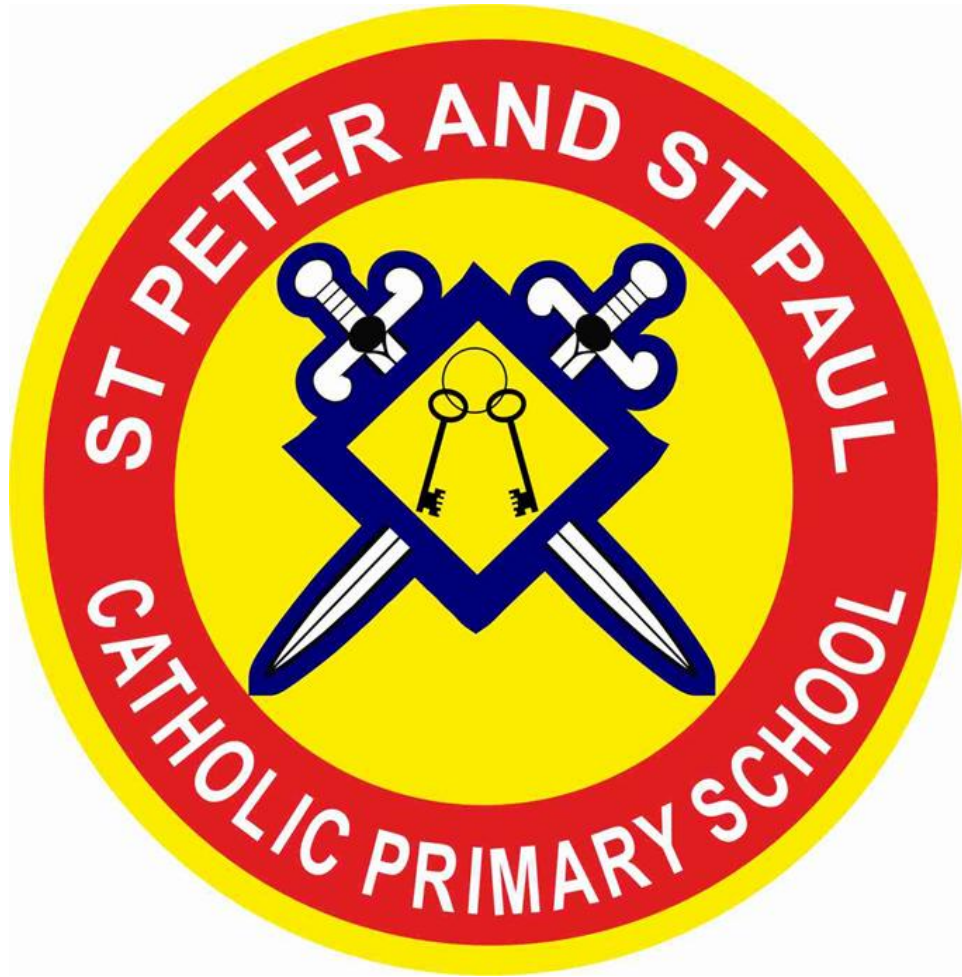


St Peter and St Paul Catholic Primary School



Catholic Life & Mission

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Mission Statement

***'With Christ as our guide,
we Love, Aspire and Serve'.***

Mission Aim 1 (Christ Centered Aim):

*Together in Christ's family, we are loving, forgiving and
compassionate to everyone.*

Mission Aim 2 (Community Centered Aim):

*Together, we are welcoming and inclusive - showing respect to
all.*

Mission Aim 3 (Education Centered Aim):

*Together, we are ambitious and determined learners, providing
an environment where everyone can flourish.*

Catholic Life & Mission

St Peter & St Paul Catholic Primary School

This document summarises how Catholic Life and Mission is lived out at St Peter & St Paul Catholic Primary School, drawing on our Catholic Self-Evaluation Document (CSED) and the school's mission, "With Christ as our guide, we Love, Aspire and Serve." It is intended to support our preparation for Catholic Schools Inspection and to give staff, governors and parish an accessible picture of our Catholic identity in action.

Our Context

St Peter & St Paul is a single-form-entry primary school in St Helens, serving the Parish of Holy Cross and St Helen. Now in its 71st year, the school has strong links between the church and the local community, and our faith is central to our teaching and to the responsibilities we hold towards pupils, families and parish alike.

The school's current denominational (CSED) grades place Catholic Life and Mission at Grade 1 overall, with Religious Education and Collective Worship both at Grade 2. This reflects a school where Catholic Life is a particular strength, built on strong pupil leadership, rich prayer and worship, and deep parish partnership.

Mission and Ethos

At St Peter & St Paul, our Catholic faith is the foundation of everything we do. Our mission statement, updated in Autumn 2023, is: **"With Christ as our guide, we Love, Aspire and Serve."**

This mission is not an addition to the work of the school but its fundamental purpose. It is revisited regularly through whole-school Mission Days, assemblies and daily practice, and has been embedded explicitly across all key policies, including behaviour, curriculum and safeguarding, following a full mission review involving governors.

Christ is at the heart of all relationships in our school. Prayer areas, displays and focal points are present in every classroom and communal area, and pupils actively contribute to these through prayers, artwork and reflections they have created themselves. The ongoing development of dedicated spaces, such as a prayer garden, gives further opportunities for quiet reflection and outdoor worship.

Pupils speak with pride about belonging to a school community rooted in Christ, and can clearly articulate how the mission shapes their daily actions - being loving, forgiving and compassionate, and recognising their own worth as individuals made in the image and likeness of God.

Pupil Leadership and Participation

Pupils take an active and meaningful role in shaping and sustaining the Catholic life of the school through a wide range of leadership opportunities, including:

- Head Boy and Girl
- Sports Captains
- Librarians and Reading Ambassadors
- Digital Leaders
- Eco Team members
- Playground Leaders
- School Councillors and House Captains
- Mini Vinnies

Our **Mini Vinnies** group, inspired by the work of the Society of St Vincent de Paul, was established following our last inspection to give pupils across Key Stage 2 (with adapted roles in Key Stage 1) a structured way to put their faith into action. They meet regularly to pray together, plan charitable initiatives and lead prayer opportunities in school, and have received formation in prayer planning, Catholic Social Teaching and evaluation skills.

Pupils undertake these responsibilities with enthusiasm and maturity, acting as strong role models for younger children and demonstrating a deep sense of responsibility, inclusion and service.

Prayer, Liturgy and Worship

Prayer and liturgy are central to pupils' spiritual development, and pupils consistently show high levels of reverence, respect and enthusiasm during Collective Worship - participating confidently in singing, prayer and moments of reflection, and engaging meaningfully in silence.

Our programme of spiritual opportunities includes:

- Daily prayer, embedded across the school as part of the daily routine
- Whole-school, key stage and class-based Collective Worship
- Monthly Mass, celebrated by our parish priest
- Class liturgies and sacramental celebrations
- Key liturgical events across the Church year, including Advent and Lent
- Year 5 and Year 6 retreat days
- Stay and Pray sessions for parents and families

Pupils are developing their skills in leading prayer and liturgy themselves, for example by selecting Scripture and preparing focus areas, and are beginning to plan, deliver and evaluate acts of worship as they move through the school.

Service, Charity and Catholic Social Teaching

Pupils' commitment to living out the mission is visible and impactful through extensive involvement in charitable, social and community action. Throughout the year, pupils take part in:

- CAFOD fundraising, including the **Big Lent Walk**

- The annual **Wellie Stomp**
- **MacMillan Coffee Morning**
- **Jeans for Genes Day**
- Fundraising and donations for local foodbanks
- Visits to care homes and support for parish initiatives

As part of our developing work towards the **Live Simply Award**, pupils are able to articulate how these actions are rooted in Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching. We are also developing an **Oscar Romero Award** to give a whole-school approach to Catholic Social Teaching that is explicitly mapped across all curriculum areas.

Next step: further develop structured opportunities for pupils to explicitly link their charity, service and environmental work to Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching, in line with the Religious Education Directory.

Care for Creation

Pupils take pride in contributing to environmental responsibility, taking ownership of their environment through:

- **Live Simply** work and wider eco-initiatives
- Recycling projects
- **OPAL** (Outdoor Play and Learning) play
- Litter-picking activities

Through these experiences, children develop a shared sense of responsibility and pride in their school community, and are able to connect their care for the environment to their understanding of Catholic Social Teaching and care for God's creation.

Parish and Wider Community Links

The school has strong pastoral links with our parish, **Holy Cross and St Helen**. Our parish priest, **Fr Jino Arikkatt**, celebrates Mass on a regular monthly basis in school, and catechists work alongside the school in preparing children to receive the sacraments, ensuring that pupils experience the Church as a living and active community.

Further partnerships that enrich pupils' understanding of faith in action include engagement with **Animate Youth** and the **Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVP)**, alongside links with local community groups.

Families, visitors and members of the parish community consistently comment on the warm and nurturing atmosphere of the school. Initiatives such as Stay and Learn, Stay and Pray, and SEND/pastoral coffee mornings ensure that parents and carers are actively engaged and supported in their role as first educators, strengthening the partnership between home, school and parish.

Dialogue and Respect for Other Faiths

Pupils develop a growing awareness of the wider world and their place within it through dialogue and encounter opportunities, including the celebration of cultural and religious diversity such as **Diwali, Ramadan, Black History Month** and **Holocaust Memorial Day**. Through these, pupils build a strong understanding of respect for other faiths and beliefs.

Participation in national and global awareness events - **Fairtrade Fortnight, Earth Day** and **Refugee Week** - further deepens pupils' understanding of justice, dignity and the common good, and pupils are able to make meaningful links between these experiences and their mission to love, aspire and serve.