St. Teresa of Lisieux Catholic Primary School Liverpool

Policy for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Developement

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by Jesus

the school of

St Teresa of Lisieux Catholic Primary

Is a community where children and adults

grow, work, pray and celebrate together

We aim

- To develop a sense of God's love as real, an understanding of the Catholic faith, the desire to pray and worship and a sense of duty and responsibility for others.

- To create a safe, happy, exciting and challenging environment in which each child and adult is encouraged and enabled to reach their full potential

- To develop and strengthen links with and between school, home, parish and the wider community

St Teresa of Lisieux Catholic Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Introduction

The mission and purpose of St. Teresa of Lisieux requires an active approach and a good range of opportunities for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development.

Our Mission Statement says:

'All things are possible when we love, learn and grow together'

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development

The potential for spiritual development is open to everyone. It relates to the spirit or soul and the intangible. It helps us to enrich our lives, the lives of others and continues after death with God the Father in Eternal Life. It is the universal search for individual identity and is not synonymous with religious education – although religious education is a major opportunity for spiritual development. At St. Teresa of Lisieux spiritual development is intended to contribute to a pupils' sense of dignity in the eyes of God, self-value and personal identity and it can help them to find meaning or purpose in life. We help our pupils each in their own way to think, appreciate, question, overcome difficulties, wonder, love, reflect and work.

What do we want for our children?

To develop their personal beliefs and their religious beliefs. To recognise that people have different cultures and hence show respect and consideration of others.

To have a sense of awe, wonder and mystery and be inspired by the natural world, mystery or human achievement.

To be able to reflect and respond to challenging experiences.

To be proud of whom they are and have self respect.

To form good relationships recognising and valuing others.

To explore their feeling and emotions.

Moral Development

Moral development relates to human behavior, especially the distinction between good and bad, right and wrong. At St. Teresa of Lisieux, moral teaching is based firmly on the teaching of Christ and the interpretation of that teaching by the Catholic Church. The Good News of the Gospel and the teachings of the Church express values which enable all of us to grow towards personal fulfillment, to have concern for wholeness and to recognise what diminishes us and what enables us to grow. The educational mission brings life to Christ's new commandment *'that you should love one another as I have loved you'*. (John 13:24)

It is not simply enough to inform young people of the Church's teaching. We must also help them to develop an appreciation of the values underpinning that teaching, in order that they can make them their own and thus help them to make informed decisions and choices throughout their lives.

What do we want for our children?

To live the Gospel values of forgiveness, acceptance, tolerance and respect.

To understand what behavior is right and wrong and the consequences of doing the right and wrong thing. To learn that they can make choices.

To have the confidence to say yes or no, in making the right decisions.

To appreciate the values underpinning the Church's teachings.

To become good citizens when they are with us, and when they take their future steps in life.

To develop an understanding of moral behavior in line with our Mission Statement which enables pupils to live out the gospel value of life in many ways such as forgiveness, freedom, tolerance and respect.

Social Development

Social development concerns living effectively in a community, rather than alone. It is about working effectively with others and developing those personal qualities and skills needed to do so. Social development contributes to an understanding of the structure of society, as well as its characteristics and institutions. It develops both the local and global socio-economic and

political understanding, along with the rights that citizenship offers and the responsibility it requires.

Cultural Development

Cultural development concerns the ideas, beliefs, values and knowledge which constitute the shared basis for society. It is about our pupils learning to understand our own culture and those present in the UK and abroad. Pupils are given opportunity to learn to appreciate and feel comfortable with living in a multi-cultural society. Through culture development St. Teresa of Lisieux makes a serious attempt to address and prevent racism and develops a respect for 'otherness'.

How do we put our principles into practice?

All areas of the curriculum contribute to the approach to the deliver of SMSC. Pupils are given the chance during particular lessons to consider SMSC elements as they arise and by actively supporting the use of specific planned opportunities such as:

Timetable suspension for particular activities

Planned opportunities which permeate eth whole curriculum

Additional opportunities arising from other initiatives / activities

Using visiting speakers within assemblies / lessons to illuminate and reinforce learning

Mission statement displayed in every room

Regular celebrations / rewards for good behavior, punctuality, attendance, acts of kindness

10% of our teaching time is for Religious Education using the Come and See programme

Daily Collective Worship offering the chance to reflect

Parish masses to celebrate with the wider community

Other Faiths week where all people have their beliefs respected and difference is celebrated

Staff reflections and masses allow time for reflection in the hectic schedules

Specifically we aim to provide opportunities so that our pupil will be able to:

Make informed decisions

Appreciate their own religion and culture and those of others and the diversity and richness that they bring

Exhibit commitment and trust in human relationships

Develop an understanding of citizenship in its broader sense

Demonstrate self-esteem, self-awareness and a sense of moral and social responsibility

Make informed choices

Understand their own responsibilities and those of groups for the health and welfare of individuals and the community.

Reviewed