

St Mary's Catholic Primary School  
Axminster



**POLICY STATEMENT ON  
SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL  
CULTURAL AND CITIZENSHIP  
DEVELOPMENT**

I am the Way, the Truth and the Life (John. 14 : 6)

Through infinite love, men and women were created with equal dignity in the image of God. (Genesis 1 : 26)

### **Rationale**

Our Mission Statement recognises that the whole school community has the privilege and duty to reflect the truth that Christ is the centre of our Foundation.

Our school is a Christian community, sharing a deeply held faith, committed to genuine Christian values and united in mutual respect and a sense of belonging.

We are concerned with the development of the whole child: his / her spiritual, mental and physical growth; his / her feelings, attitudes and relationships, his/ her character and personality.

### **Our Mission Statement is:**

**‘To educate and to develop every child’s potential within our Catholic School Family’.**

Our Mission Statement is underpinned by our School’s Aims which are:

- To ensure each child achieves their personal potential, academically as well as in sport, music and the arts
- To encourage our children to develop their understanding of and relationship with God.
- To promote a safe, stimulating and rewarding environment in which our children can develop educationally, emotionally and spiritually.
- To have everybody who attends St Mary’s or works here, seen as part of our school family.
- To recognise and reward each child’s successes.
- To provide a rich and stimulating curriculum, with an emphasis on the basic skills of numeracy, literacy and ICT.
- To encourage our children to show kindness, respect and consideration towards others.
- To ensure a strong relationship with our parents, our Catholic parish and our local community.

### **Purpose**

We aim to contribute to the Spiritual, Moral, Social, Cultural development of each child, to become responsible citizens and become more fully the person they are called to be.

### **Spiritual Development**

Our aim is:

- To support all pupils as they progress along their personal journey of faith.
- To encourage all pupils to grow in their response to God and to discern what that implies for their lives.

We will do this through:

- ✚ Providing a daily act of collective worship.
- ✚ Offering opportunities for openness and enquiry.
- ✚ Encouraging the development of talents.
- ✚ Offering opportunities to explore personal beliefs and values in relation to human experiences.

### **Moral Development**

Our aim is:

- To develop skills, based on gospel values, of knowing how to behave and act, and the reasons for such behaviour.

We will do this through:

- ✚ Encouraging pupils to demonstrate the highest standards of behaviour and relationships.
- ✚ Providing opportunities for pupils to explore the distinction between right and wrong.
- ✚ Developing skills necessary to make decisions based on gospel values.
- ✚ Engaging in discussion with open mindedness, showing respect for the views of others.

### **Social Development**

Our aim is:

- To give our pupils the skills to enable them to interact appropriately and confidently with others.
- To develop the competencies necessary to play a full part in society.

We will do this through:

- ✚ Promoting good relationships by example.
- ✚ Using a variety of teaching and learning styles to develop, for example, co-operation, team work, collaboration and leadership skills.
- ✚ Providing opportunities for pupils to exercise responsibility within the school community.
- ✚ Recognising and rewarding good deeds and activities outside the school community.

### **Cultural Development**

Our aim is:

- To increase pupil's knowledge and understanding of the beliefs, values and customs of other cultures and to appreciate the richness of cultural diversity both within Britain and worldwide.

We will do this through:

- ✚ Providing opportunities for pupils to learn about and experience other cultures.
- ✚ Providing opportunities to visit places of cultural significance.
- ✚ Providing opportunities for pupils to learn about their own culture: tradition and practice.

### **Citizenship**

Our aim is:

- To increase pupil's knowledge and understanding to play an effective role in society at local, national and international levels.
- To enable pupils to be more informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens aware of their duties and rights.
- To develop skills of enquiry, communication, participation and responsible action.

We will do this through:

- The above Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development and also the 'hidden' curriculum.

This Policy should be read in conjunction with St. Mary's Catholic Primary School's Policies for:

- Safeguarding Children and Child Protection
- Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)
- Equality Policies

