

SACRED HEART OF MARY GIRLS' SCHOOL



CITIZENSHIP POLICY AND STATEMENT ON BRITISH VALUES

SLT Member Responsible	B. McConville	
To be reviewed	Every 2 years	
Last Reviewed	September 2017	
Date of next review	Autumn 2019	
Headteacher		Date: 1 September 2018
Chair of Governors		Date: 1 September 2018

CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Aims of Citizenship Education

Citizenship gives pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding to play an effective role in society at local, national and international levels. It helps them to become informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens who are aware of their rights and duties. It promotes their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, making them self-confident and responsible both, in, and beyond the classroom. It encourages pupils to play a part in the life of their school, neighbourhood and community and the wider world. It also teaches them about the economy, values and democratic institutions, and encourages respect for different national, religious and ethnic identities and develops pupils' ability to reflect on issues and take part in discussion.

Citizenship in Catholic Schools: Active Discipleship

The Mission Statement of the Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School reflects a set of values that permeate and support all aspects of Citizenship Education. In helping pupils to develop respect, tolerance and concern for others and by encouraging them to appreciate the cultural diversity of the world around them, we strive to become a more humane world which will, ultimately, reveal the authentic face of God and Christianity.

Objectives

Pupils will:

- Gain a clear understanding of what Citizenship Education is all about
- Develop social and moral responsibility as well as sensitised consciences through the Church's social teaching
- Actively promote British Values in their daily lives
- Become able to see, judge and act according to the mind of Christ
- Become involved in their communities
- Become politically, socially and economically aware

Learning Outcomes

Pupils should:

- Be encouraged to be regular participants in Citizenship activities in school and in their local communities
- Learn to be self-confident and to demonstrate socially and morally responsible behaviour towards others both in, and beyond, the classroom
- Become helpfully involved in the life of the school, the local neighbourhood, wider community and parish
- Learn about institutions, issues, problems and practices of our democracy
- Learn about national and international issues and the role that they can play

- Become aware of the Catholic position on political and social issues and encouraged to develop the knowledge and skills to critically evaluate the positions promoted by politicians and the media
- Develop knowledge and understanding that will enable them to become informed citizens as well as full and active members of the living Church committed to social justice.

The range and level of skills acquired through Citizenship Education should increase as pupils progress through the school.

Meeting Statutory Requirements

Statutory requirements are met in full by:

- Teaching Citizenship across the curriculum
- Teaching Citizenship as part of the CPSHEE Programmes of Study across the Key Stages
- Daily assemblies. Pupils have ownership of the liturgical programme which focuses on spiritual, moral and social issues relevant to young people
- Enterprise activities
- Extra curricula activities and events
- Access to ICT facilities and the Internet
- The RE curriculum
- Partnership with external agencies

Assessment

The aims of assessment are:

- To motivate pupils, encouraging them to increase their levels of participation in a variety of contexts
- To provide pupils, parents and staff with a means of measuring progress in Citizenship Education and of assessing the Citizenship skills of an individual pupil against nationally set targets.

All teaching staff have access to Programmes of Study and attainment targets for Citizenship

A weak assessment in Citizenship should not imply that a pupil is failing as a citizen

Throughout KS3, Citizenship units of work in all areas of the curriculum should be assessed according to the National Curriculum levels for Citizenship.

Years 7 & 8

Form Tutors will assess the designated unit of Citizenship work and use this assessment as a basis for reporting to parents on progress made.

Year 9

Departments have devised a specific unit of work to cover an area of the Citizenship curriculum. This unit will be kept with other units of work for that subject.

At the end of KS3, Year 9 subject teachers will complete a grid, detailing the mark awarded to each pupil for the Citizenship unit of work.

The Form Tutor will use the marks gathered from departments to make a judgement on pupil progress and achievement. The Form Tutor will arrive at an average mark based on the work completed in CPSHEE and units covered in different subject areas. This average will be recorded on the end of year report.

Year 10

Form Tutors report achievement in Citizenship by commenting on the end of year report whether a pupil is working *'Towards'*, *'At'*, or *'Beyond'* the expected level.

Year 11

The End of Year 11 Report provides a means of recording pupil achievement in Citizenship at the end of KS4.

Academic Reviews across the Key Stages provide opportunities for pupils to reflect upon their participation in Citizenship activities.

Citizenship Values

Values promoted in Citizenship must be in keeping with the Catholic teaching and reflect the mission and aims of the school. The statement of Values in the National Curriculum document is a sound guide to the consensus of values in contemporary society.

Staff are expected to model these values and should encourage high standards of behaviour, respect and consideration for others. The Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School is committed to anti-racist or discriminatory behaviour.

Staff responsibilities

The member of SLT designated to monitor and support Citizenship provision is Bronach McConville. All staff are expected to contribute to the development and delivery of Citizenship Education through teaching the broad curriculum, and supporting extra-curricula and pastoral activities.

STATEMENT ON BRITISH VALUES

At Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School we embrace the opportunity to educate our pupils in the Catholic faith but, as a Christian worshipping community, pupils are also reminded of their place at the heart of a culturally diverse and multi-faith modern Britain. The right of each person to be respected and valued equally regardless of ability, gender, faith, heritage or race is clearly articulated in our mission statement and is central to gospel values which are the foundation of all aspects of policy and practice in our school.

Our school fully appreciates the uniqueness of each individual and we are committed to enabling and empowering our young people to grow as individuals and to become responsible citizens in the community and country in which they live.

We are fully committed to the promotion and reinforcement of the fundamental British values of:

Democracy

The Rule of Law

Individual liberty

Mutual respect

Tolerance of those of different faiths and beliefs.

This commitment is evident and explicitly expressed via the formal curriculum and also implicitly via the experiences offered to pupils beyond the classroom.

Democracy

At Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School adults listen to the views of pupils and value their opinions. Pupils have formal opportunities to have their voices heard through School Council, Academic Reviews with Pastoral Teams and interviews with members of the Senior Leadership Team and the 'family' ethos of the school encourages pupils to share their views with staff informally when the need arises. School Council, House Captains, Form Captains Music/Drama Games and Liturgical Reps Team are the result of pupil elections and all pupils holding these posts of responsibility canvas the opinions of their peers and represent these views to staff. Staff are also encouraged to share their views and concerns via the Performance Appraisal processes for teaching and support staff, regular meetings and a well-established and structured system of Monitoring and Support. There is a strong sense of democratic responsibility across the school and the House system makes a significant contribution to this by facilitating and encouraging joint ventures and strong partnerships between older and younger pupils and staff.

The Rule of Law

The Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School is a well-ordered community whose members are committed to upholding the Code of Conduct. Our pupils are well aware of the need for laws and rules to keep individuals safe, they know their responsibilities in maintaining a safe and well-ordered environment both within and beyond the school community, and they have a clear understanding of the rewards and sanctions used in school. The 'Rule of Law' supports and reinforces the Gospel message of 'Love Thy Neighbour' and, indeed, the 10 commandments which form the basis of the Christian Code of Conduct.

Individual Liberty

Pupils are actively encouraged to be independent learners and to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. They are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are taught how to use these rights to best effect. Pupils are given the freedom to make choices of the extent to which they participate in numerous extra-curricular experiences.

Mutual Respect

At Sacred Heart of Mary Girls' School concern and respect for one another define our relationships and our modus vivendi is rooted in our response to the most important commandment of all; 'Love one another as I have loved you'. Assemblies constantly promote respect and the importance of courtesy and consideration for the needs of others. Pupils are taught the importance of self-respect, honest and open communication with others and fair play and they are encouraged to work collaboratively and to value others' opinions.

Appreciating those of Different Faiths and Beliefs

Our Mission Statement is explicit in articulating the need for all members of our school community to respect the views of those from particular faith backgrounds and those from none. In RE pupils are taught about other faiths and assemblies often give information relating to the religious practices and traditions of other belief systems. There are many non-Catholic members of staff and members of the 6th Form who often lead assemblies and play a full part in the liturgical life of the school.

At Sacred Heart of Mary the formal curriculum, as well as the ethos that permeates the school, plays a significant role in giving pupils insight into the lives, beliefs experiences and traditions of others and in teaching pupils to respect and value cultural diversity as well as the richness of 'difference'.

Up-dated by KO September 2018.