



**ST PHILIP'S**  
**CATHOLIC PRIMARY**  
**SCHOOL**

## Catholic Life Policy

<b>Version</b>	1
<b>Date created/updated</b>	September 2025
<b>Ratified by</b>	LGB
<b>Date ratified</b>	October 2025
<b>Date issued</b>	October 2025
<b>Policy review date</b>	September 2027
<b>Post holder responsible</b>	Principal



**Commitment to Equality:**

We are committed to providing a positive working environment which is free from prejudice and unlawful discrimination and any form of harassment, bullying or victimisation. We have developed a number of key policies to ensure that the principles of Catholic Social Teaching in relation to human dignity and dignity in work become embedded into every aspect of school life and these policies are reviewed regularly in this regard.

**This Catholic Life Policy has been approved and adopted by St Philip's Catholic Primary School on September 2025 and will be reviewed in September 2027.**

*Signed by the Chair of the Local Governing Body for St Philip's Catholic Primary School*

*Mr Stephen Godber*

*Signed by the Principal for St Philip's Catholic Primary School:*

*Mrs Carmel Hinton*



## **Our Mission is**

### ***Learning and Working Together Through Christ***

This mission statement is the foundation stone on which we build the Catholic Life of the School. This has been discussed and reviewed with staff and children annually to ensure it remains a relevant serving statement that we continue to live out in practise.

We aim to achieve our mission by:

- Establishing, maintaining and developing a Catholic ethos which permeates everything we do and is apparent to all those who enter the school.
- Providing frequent opportunities for conscious and active participation in collective worship through Holy Mass and other services/celebrations in accordance with the rites of the Catholic Church to all in the community.
- Providing a supportive Sacramental Programme in collaboration with the Parish in accordance with the rites of the Catholic Church and diocesan policy.
- Creating a place of learning where Gospel values and the teachings of the Catholic Church are evident in everything we do including the Catholic School Pupil Profile and Catholic Social Teachings.
- Modelling the image of Christ in the way we lead and manage the school to ensure that all people are respected as children of God.
- Providing an enriched curriculum which is creative, inspiring and inclusive for all pupils which is fundamentally based on the teachings of Jesus and his Holy Church.
- Developing the prayer and spiritual life of all members of our school and the community it serves.
- To be an outreaching centre of God's mission on earth in promoting the virtues of faith, hope, generosity, compassion and charity.
- Embedding the culture of vocation by educating pupils to be active in their faith and by reaching out to those in our community and beyond.
- Ensuring that the Gospel values, Catholic School Pupil Profile and Catholic Social Teachings are permeated through all policies.

### **Caring for and meeting the pastoral, spiritual, moral and social needs of the children.**

- Providing good Catholic role models for the younger citizens of the future so that they may follow in Jesus' footsteps in their lives.
- Maintaining, working with and developing successful links with the home, parish, archdiocese, community and the wider world.

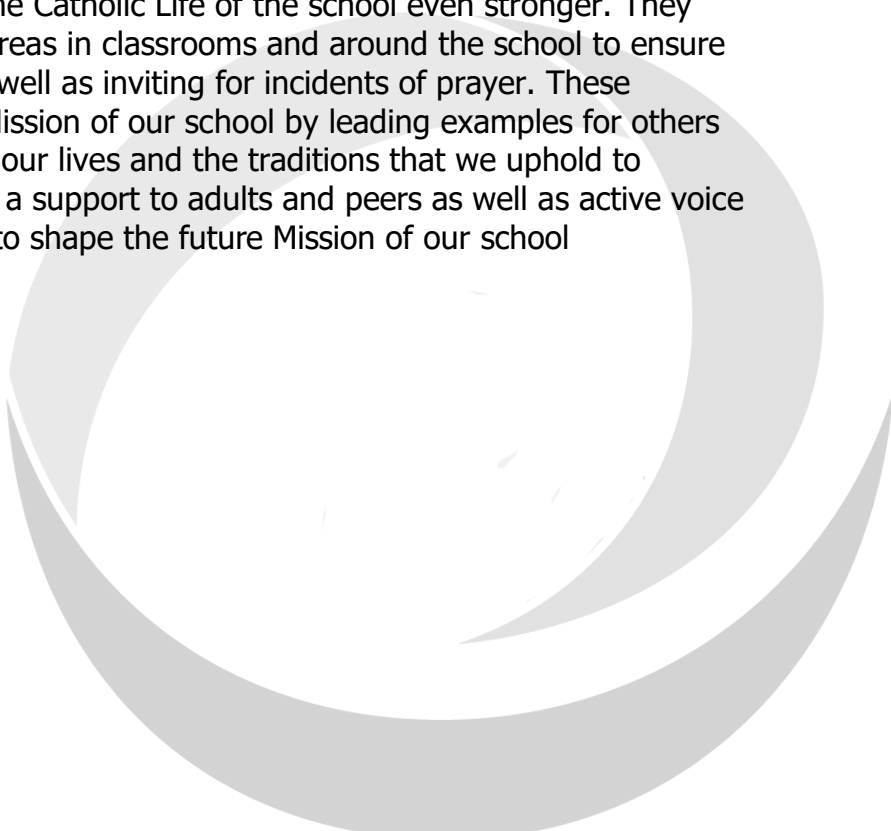
It is our hope that by working towards the above we play our part in the mission of Christ and his Holy Church on Earth as active apostles and ambassadors of the Church.

### **The Spiritual Life of School**

Prayer occupies an important role in our Religious Education as a means of expressing, fostering and nurturing faith. Children have a natural aptitude for prayer, they are open to God. They respond in joy, wonder, anger, disappointment and elation to the world round them. We aim to create and maintain an environment where this is fostered and developed. Our classrooms, work areas and school entrance are welcoming, bright, colourful, and rich in Christian imagery and artefacts so that our Mission Statement is being lived out through our surroundings.

### **Mission Team**

We have a group of children from each class in KS2 who make up our school Mission Team. The children hold regular meetings and discuss improvements which can be made to make the Catholic Life of the school even stronger. They monitor and evaluate prayer areas in classrooms and around the school to ensure they are liturgically correct as well as inviting for incidents of prayer. These children support the life and Mission of our school by leading examples for others on the importance of Christ in our lives and the traditions that we uphold to honour and worship. They are a support to adults and peers as well as active voice who are dedicated to helping to shape the future Mission of our school community.



### **Catholic Social Teachings**

We aim to bring about an awareness of the needs ourselves as children of God, of others in need and the needs of our wider world too.

During the school year (especially during Harvest, Advent and Lent) the children and their families are encouraged to bring in tins of food for Brushstrokes. Children also take part in CAFOD fundraising days and raising money for other charities such as Macmillan and Father Hudson's.

All of these initiatives are led by our team of Mini Vinnies who are passionate about what they can do to serve, help and give to our community and the wider world. They are active in and giving of their time after school to serve the parish, lead our school in outreach and charitable initiatives.

Our ECO team of Laudato Si warriors are active and passionate stewards who ensure that we live sustainably and in solidarity. The children drive for change in our whole school to make as big an impact towards global change as possible.

These teachings are woven into our curriculum as well as the wider life of the school. Children are taught in all subjects how we can think of sharing what we have with others, taking care of our planet, treating others with respect and their own responsibility in living out these teachings.

### **Parental Involvement**

We believe that if our Religious Programme is to be effective, we must at each stage seek to involve parents and give them the confidence to play their part in the formation of their children. The school supports and develops the primary task of parents as the first teachers of their children in the ways of Faith. We aim to involve parents by:-

1. Inviting them to Gifts from God assemblies and acts of worship that their children will be leading on.
2. Inviting them to celebrate Holy Mass and Parish Mass during the school year.
3. They are invited to parent meetings in preparation for the Sacraments and to support the children's preparations in workshops, church preparations and celebrations.
4. Parents are invited to special celebrations e.g. Nativity plays, Carol Service, Stations of the Cross and Holy Week Assemblies.
5. Inviting parents to share their views through questionnaires.
6. Prayer bags which are sent home to bring a connection between school and home in prayer

### **Monitoring of Catholic Life**

The Catholic Life of the school is regularly monitored and reviewed by children, staff, leaders and Governors to ensure that we are living out our Catholic Values and meeting the prayer life needs of the children along with supporting them in their relationship with God. This planned for on a termly cycle by the RE subject leader.

The Mission team evaluate, alongside the RE leader, the prayer focuses in each liturgical season and offer support to adults and peers on how to improve and show importance to these areas.

Pupil voice within questionnaires and meetings features catholic life with prominence to continually improve practises that the children are passionate about and dedicated to.

