

St Charles RC Primary School

Faith Life of the School



CHRIST IS AT THE CENTRE



Compassionate
Helpful
Respectful
Inclusive
Sharing
Truthful



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Our mission at St. Charles RC Primary School is to try and centre our life in Jesus Christ, the spiritual foundation of our community.

We aim to pass on the faith we share in partnership with you.

We want the children in our care to grow and develop to their full potential within a caring Catholic community which recognises fully their true worth and God given talents. We look forward to working with you in a spirit of mutual trust and support.

We take pride belonging to St. Charles RC Primary School.

MISSION STATEMENT

As a family of God, we love to learn and learn to love

“Faith as small as a mustard seed moves mountains” – Matthew 17:20

Religious Education & Celebrations

St Charles RC is a Roman Catholic school who observe the rites, practices and observances of the Catholic faith. Pupils take a full and active part in the religious life of the school. They gain a strong understanding of the Gospel and are asked to bear witness to the Word of God in their dealings with each other.

10% of the timetable is dedicated to the teaching of the religious syllabus; 'The Way the Truth and the Life' and 'Come and See'. Pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural well-being is promoted through this scheme and through 'Caritas in Action' We make links across all subjects in the curriculum.

Prayer and worship is central to school life and pupils are asked to accept the role as God's ambassadors on earth.

The faith life of the school is regularly evaluated against the 5W's framework (Word of God, Worship, Welcome, Welfare and Witness) and has this evaluation validated by regular inspections carried out by the Diocese of Salford.

St Charles Borromeo

The patron saint of our school is St Charles Borromeo, one of the founding fathers of the responsible for significant reforms in the Catholic Church, including the founding of seminaries for the education of priests. He is honoured as a saint in the Catholic Church and his feast day is 4 November. Parishioners from St Charles RC parish play a important part in school life and enable strong links to be made between the school and parish communities.

Year 3 Sacramental Program

The school supports and guides Y3 pupils through their sacramental programme journey. We work closely with the parish, to prepare the children to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion.

Care, Guidance and Support

Gospel values are at the centre of all aspects of school life. Children show respect, tolerance and understanding towards each other and help create an atmosphere of joy and happiness. The welfare of children is always our fundamental priority and staff work hard to ensure the well-being of all within the school community. Parents are encouraged to discuss any concerns they may have, with any issues dealt with swiftly and sensitively.

Pupil Chaplains

The school has a team of pupil chaplains who have been commissioned by the Bishop of Salford. They work with pupils and staff throughout the school, providing support at times of challenge, as well as comfort, understanding and mentoring.

Charitable Giving

Pupils recognise the responsibilities they have as Catholics and support those in need in any way they can. Each year, pupils help raise money for Cafod, St. Joseph's Penny, Caritas Salford, Loaves and Fishes and Revive. A number of other charitable organisations benefit from the work of pupils and staff, who freely give up their own time for the benefit of others.

Gospel Values

Whilst other values may be found within the four Gospels and New Testament writings, it is the Beatitudes which "...depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray His charity." Gospel values are revealed to us through Christ's proclamation. Such objective values are to be found rooted in the Beatitudes, the proclamation of Christ's sermon on the Mount. The Beatitudes also "...reveal the goal of human existence, the ultimate end of human acts" and as such are the objective 'values' given by Christ himself.

MATTHEW 5:3-10

- 1) Blessed are the poor in heart for theirs is the kingdom of heaven
- 2) Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted
- 3) Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the earth
- 4) Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be filled
- 5) Blessed are the merciful for they will receive mercy
- 6) Blessed are the pure in heart for they will see God
- 7) Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God
- 8) Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of Heaven



THE ST CHARLES BE-ATTITUDES



- S**pecial
- T**rustworthy
- C**ompassionate
- H**umble
- A**live
- R**espectful
- L**oving
- E**ncouraging
- S**elfless

- **Be Special – (Matthew 5:2)** We celebrate the way in which all children are unique, our curriculum promotes respect for the views of each individual child, as well as for people of all cultures and faiths. We foster the spiritual and moral development of each person, as well as their intellectual, emotional and physical growth.

- **Be Trustworthy – (Matthew 5:3)** In this Beatitude, Jesus is telling us to be humble and place all our trust in God, knowing that God is always there for us. When we place our trust in God, we are humbled, which means we are poor in Spirit. We encourage all our pupils to be trusting and trustworthy.
- **Be Compassionate – (Matthew 5:4)** When we experience sadness in our life, we can better understand the sadness in other people’s lives. Sorrowful experiences teach us how to be kind to others and reach out to those in need. We want to be compassionate to others.
- **Be Humble – (Matthew 5:5)** Being meek and humble takes real effort, such as being nice to others even when we don’t feel like it, or walking away from a fight, or admitting that we are wrong. All of these things and more require us to be humble.
- **Be Alive - (Matthew 5:6)** To be righteous, we strive to do the very best we can do in everything, we try to be the best person we can be. We want to do what is right at all times and stand up for what is right. We also want what is right for others, this requires us to be cheerleaders for others and sometimes put others before ourselves. All of these things make us Alive in the Lord. We try to live the way God wants us to live, to follow His rules and to do His will.
- **Be Respectful – (Matthew 5:7)** Being merciful is being respectful, charitable, generous, compassionate and patient towards others. It means showing kindness and love to others. When we are merciful to others, God promises mercy on us. Through the environment and through the curriculum, the school aims to teach respect for ourselves, each other and God’s world.
- **Be Loving – (Matthew 5:8)** God asks us to strive to be pure in heart, to do the right things for the right reasons. We live our lives without seeking personal gain. We are thankful for God’s gifts and recognise that living according to God’s Word is more important than anything else and God’s Word is Love.
- **Be Encouraging – (Matthew 5:9)** Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.” In Jesus’ language, the word ‘peace’ means being in the presence of God and doing God’s work. In our own lives we see injustices – things that are happening that aren’t right, we need to be encouraging to each other to speak out for what is right.
- **Be Selfless – (Matthew 5:10)** Christ was persecuted when he was crucified on the cross. The early Christians were persecuted because they believed in Christ, their selflessness made it possible for us to practice our faith today. Living our faith and being selfless is standing up for God’s work.

Rooted in the teaching of Christ, these Gospel Values are actively promoted through each lesson across the curriculum and within our pastoral system at all levels. As a Catholic community, we believe that our Gospel Values incorporate ‘British Values’ as outlined within recent DfE guidelines.

Equalities Statement:

St Charles RC Primary School is committed to valuing diversity and to equality of opportunity. We aim to create and promote an environment in which pupils, parents and staff are treated fairly and with respect, and feel able to contribute to the best of their abilities. The Governing Body recognises that it is unlawful to take into account anyone’s gender, marital status, colour, race, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, religious

beliefs, age or sexual orientation. Full consideration has been given to this during the formulation of this policy as it is the governors' aim that no-one at St Charles RC Primary school should suffer discrimination, either directly or indirectly, or harassment on any of these grounds.