St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Policy for Morality

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Mission Statement

At the heart of our Catholic faith, we pursue the truth and strive for excellence. The more we recognise and appreciate the beauty and goodness in ourselves and others, the more we come to recognise God.

At St Augustine's School, we share the Light of Christ with each other and feel a sense of belonging to the family of the Church.

Our school is a place of order, stability, tolerance and love, where we foster good relationships between home, school, parish, local and wider community.

Together we will make this school a place where everyone is nurtured, supported and valued while being circled by God's love.

When God's love enters our hearts, we grow in wisdom and understanding.

St Augustine's Catholic Primary School

Moral Education Policy

Moral Education in the school is to help children develop an informed conscience. Moral development progresses from one stage to another.

As a school it is very important for all staff to work together with children and parents to help the children's moral development.

We believe that is important to provide a caring, stable environment that encourages everyone to respect each other as well as their property and the environment we work in.

This is necessary for children to begin to develop their morality. We want to help develop the children's morals in daily school life so the message of the gospel is evident:

'Love one another as I have loved you'

Moral Education across the Curriculum

As a staff we can be aware and take opportunities for moral development in all subject areas. It is something we can try to develop daily in and out of the classroom.

Moral development can be developed in our approaches to teaching through encouraging the children to:

- ♦ To share
- ♦ Co-operate in a group
- ♦ Listen and respect others contributions
- ♦ Take care of equipment
- ♦ Encourage and praise each other
- ♦ Help and support each other

Moral development can also take place through subject areas and curriculum coverage. Teachers can take opportunities to develop children's morality at the appropriate age and pupil understanding.

PSHE/Citizenship and Religion

PSHE/Citizenship and Religion are subject areas where a lot of moral development can take place. PSHE and Citizenship help to give the pupils the knowledge, skills and understanding they need to live confident, independent lives and to become informed, active, responsible citizens contributing to the life of their schools and their communities. The children reflect on their experiences and understand how they are developing personally, socially, tackling many of the spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues that are part of growing up.

Religion

All children at St Augustine's follow the '*Come and See'* scheme of work which has many opportunities for moral development.

Autumn

The three autumn time themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Creation:

- ♦ Family ⟷ Domestic Church

- ♦ Belonging ⟷ Baptism/Confirmation

- ♦ Loving ⟷ Advent/Christmas

Spring

The three spring time themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Incarnation:

- ♦ Community ⟷ Local Church

- ♦ Relating ⟷ Eucharist

- ♦ Giving ⟷ Lent/Easter

Summer

The three summer time themes are developed in the light of an understanding of Redemption and the work of the Holy Spirit:

- ♦ Serving ⟷ Pentecost

- ♦ Inter-Relating ⟷ Reconciliation

- ♦ World ⟷ Universal Church

(⟷ 'Come and See Scheme of Work pages 15 – 17)
Through Explore, Reveal and Respond, children are given many chances to develop morally at their appropriate level.

Moral Development throughout the school

♦ Children are made very aware of the school Mission Statement from the day they enter the school and what this means in practical terms through assemblies, PSHE, Religion and constant reinforcement by class teachers and all staff members both in the classroom, around the school and in the playground.

♦ One day a week there is a good work assembly when children from each class receive a certificate for effort with their work, behaviour, attitude and helpfulness.

♦ The Head teacher sees children throughout the week and may reward them with stickers for their good behaviour or attitude to others.

♦ Children are recognised for good behaviour, attitude, helpfulness to others and this is shared in the school and in newsletters.

♦ Through the House Captains Committee, children discuss and share ideas that help build on their moral development.

♦ Older juniors are given jobs of responsibility and often help with the younger children or staff member.

♦ Through whole school and class assemblies, themes on moral development are covered.

♦ The school has a very clear Behaviour/Anti-Bullying Policy that all staff follows. Parents are very aware of the Behaviour/Anti – Bullying Policy.

♦ The school works closely with parents over issues of behaviour. The school values the importance of building a good link with parents for the benefit of the children.

♦ Consistent approaches to behaviour are very important. The children need to feel at all times they are being treated fairly by all staff members. We encourage the children to take responsibility for their actions with clear boundaries set and explanations given for all rules/punishment given.

♦ The children are taught that forgiveness is very important and they are given the chance to make a fresh start after they have taken the consequences of any wrong action.

♦ The school has services of the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the children.

♦ The school places great importance on respect for other cultures and celebrates this through assemblies and cultural weeks in the school year.

♦ All staff are good role models and lead by example.

School Environment

♦ Home School Agreement

♦ Cultural Displays

♦ Respecting the school building, equipment. Keeping the school tidy.

♦ School Mission Statement

♦ Valuing and sharing each child's work in the school.

♦ Prayers displayed

Monitoring and Evaluation

♦ Inset on moral development

♦ Review resources to support teaching e.g. PSHE, Anti-Bullying worksheets, assembly books.

♦ Review on a regular basis Moral Development policy, Anti-Bullying policy and Behaviour Policy, which have close links.