

SFA Catholic Life

'I HAVE COME SO THAT THEY HAVE LIFE, AND HAVE IT TO THE FULL'

- JOHN 10:10



St Francis of Assisi
CATHOLIC COLLEGE

'When people talk, listen completely. Most people never listen' - Ernest Hemingway

Listen & Learn

SLT/GOVERNORS

STUDENT VOICE

STAFF & PARENTAL SURVEY

- EVALUATE THE IMPACT OF THE CATHOLIC CHARACTER ON THE DAILY LIFE OF THE SCHOOL

Catholic Identity & Mission Statement

Creation of a mission statement that is "a clear and an inspiring expression of the educational mission of the Church and SFA's particular charism" - pg36, Catholic Schools Inspection Framework.



PROVISION

Catholic Life & Mission

MORAL FORMATION OF PUPILS

Celebrating virtue and moral development through the perfect example of Christ, its emphasis in the curriculum (RE, RSE, General RE) and its practice (staff example, outreach).

STAFF FORMATION

Opportunities for staff to explore the Catholic faith. - staff retreats/"Come and See" - an introduction to Catholicism for staff/ Catholic Leadership CPD.

CHAPLAINCY

Establishing the Chaplaincy as the spiritual heartbeat of the school. Pupils actively take leadership roles in supporting the Chaplain. Fostering a model of Chaplaincy with a dynamic spirit of faith, creativity and support.

OUTREACH

Modelling Christ ("love one another, as I have loved you." - John 13:34) and St. Francis ("Preach the Gospel at all times, when necessary use words").

Living out CST through service of the local, national and global community (fund raising - e.g. Mary's Meals, General RE time allocated to visiting the sick and elderly).

CATHOLIC LEADERSHIP

Culture of strong commitment of leaders and governors to the Catholic life of the school through frequent communication and strategic planning. Strong line of engagement with the diocese and local Church (e.g. attending diocese CPD, inviting diocese representatives to come to SFA and share their vision of Catholic education).



PROVISION

Collective Worship

DAILY PRAYER

Prayer packs that mirror the liturgical calendar, taking the onus of tutors leading prayer but accompanying the prayer resources.

STAFF MASS

Fostering a prayerful and nurturing environment where staff feel warmly invited and the offer of mass is extended to all staff (departmental invites).

PUPIL MASS

Key stage masses where students are participants not spectators. Masses that explain the mass as well as celebrate it.

LITURGIES

Dynamic and creative liturgies that celebrate the students gifts of music, art and drama and bring to life the story of the Gospel.

INVITATION TO THE SACRAMENTS

Creating opportunities and space for pupils and staff to experience the power of the sacraments (e.g. Reconciliation days, Eucharistic Adoration).

MUSIC WORKSHOPS

Music workshops and music led prayer run by skilled and enigmatic Catholic musicians.

JOURNEYING WITH THE BIBLE

Opportunities for staff to journey through the Bible using the 'Bible in a Year' with Fr. Mike Schmitz.



PROVISION

Religious Education*

2023 CURRICULUM DIRECTORY

Support RE lead in the work underway to ensure that the curriculum embraces fully the requirements of the New Religious Education Directory* (deadline: 1 September 2025).

CURRICULUM INTENT

Ensuring the provision of Religious Education is clear in its intent - with a strong curriculum vision which aligns with the school's mission statement and charism.

CURRICULUM %

'A school cannot achieve an outstanding grade if it does not offer Religious Education as 10% of taught curriculum.' Catholic Schools Inspection Framework.

Religious Education must be taught at sixth form for 5% of learning hours.

LESSONS FOR LITURGIES

A curriculum which makes space for the support and preparation of pupils in their understanding and active participation in the liturgical life of the school.

* Active support of RE lead in provision of the following:

SCHOOL OUTCOMES

- Pupils/staff understand and embrace the distinctive Catholic identity, charism and mission of SFA.

- Pupils/staff experience feeling valued and cared for as unique persons, made in God's image (Imago Dei).

- Pupils are committed to following the teaching and example of Jesus as expressed in the Gospels, and are inspired by the example of St. Francis.

- Pupils show a deep respect for their own personal dignity and that of others (Imago Dei).

- Pupils highly value the school's chaplaincy provision, willingly taking leadership roles within it.

SCHOOL OUTCOMES

- The experiences of prayer and liturgy engage pupils deeply and lead them to active participation.

- Pupils and staff have a rich understanding of the various ways of praying that are part of the Catholic tradition.

- Collaborative culture: Pupils work with teachers and the chaplaincy team to prepare creative experiences of prayer and liturgy.

- Impact: Pupils have the opportunity to experience the beauty of prayer and liturgy with both contemporary and traditional methods of Catholic worship.

SCHOOL OUTCOMES

- Pupils are 'religiously literate and engaged young people, ... (who) reflect spiritually, and think ethically'. (2023 RECD).

- Religious Education is the core subject at the heart of the life of the school.

- RE teachers have a high level of confidence based on authentic subject knowledge and CPD.

- Pupils greatly value their experience of Religious Education and make connections between the provision of Religious Education and the wider Catholic Life of SFA.

*The New RECD replaces previous models of 1996 and 2012