



Much Woolton Catholic Primary School

'With Jesus we Love, Learn and Grow'

School Policy for Moral Development

Approved by the Governing body in March 2026

Signed _____ Chair of Governors

Signed _____ Head teacher

To be reviewed and revised in March 2028

MISSION STATEMENT

With Jesus we Love, Learn and Grow

To do this we will:

- Be a Christian community that follows Jesus in living out Gospel values. (Christ centred)
- Provide opportunities for all to grow and achieve their full potential, by igniting a desire for lifelong learning. (Education)
- Be a beacon of light that shines out to others, sharing faith, hope and love. (Community)

Objectives:

- Provide quality collective worship and enriching liturgical celebrations.
- Enable our children to acquire an excellent religious education, through a well taught and resourced Come and See programme.
- Encourage all to develop their understanding of and relationship with God, while at the same time respecting that others choose to express their faith in different ways.
- Be positive role models, who treat each other with respect and are willing to forgive and be forgiven.

- Provide a stimulating curriculum, which is fun, challenging and relevant to the needs of our children.
- Value all our pupils and staff, appreciating their uniqueness and individual talents, enabling them to develop these to the full.
- Have high expectations of ourselves and each other, in all that we do.
- Ensure that all children reach their full potential through effective planning, assessment and evaluation, which will inform their next steps.

- Create a positive atmosphere where all feel valued and are welcomed into our school community.
- Develop positive links between the school and parish community.
- Learn about and appreciate other faiths and cultures.
- Use our talents as responsible citizens to enrich the lives of others in our local and the global community.

Introduction

Moral education helps pupils to acquire knowledge, understanding, intentions, attitudes and behaviour in relation to what is right and wrong. The word 'moral' is concerned with fundamental judgements about how we should behave or act and our reasons for such behaviour.

It is of the greatest importance that children develop a clear set of rules of conduct, which draw on basic moral values and which can be applied to everyday situations.

Aims

We aim to provide our pupils with a moral framework within which to operate and, as the children mature, by helping them to decide what they hold as right and wrong, why they do so and how they should act- that is, that they should behave well, in accordance with a moral code.

Moral development involves the distinction between right and wrong, good and evil in a social context. Moral development, therefore, is about a growing awareness of, and a positive response to the demands of living as an individual with others in a community. Schools, therefore, need to consider how an individual pupil and, of course, a teacher can best develop their unique way within an identifiable Catholic community.

* *Spiritual and moral development across the Curriculum- Catholic Education Service
The educational mission of the Church brings to life Christ's new commandment "that you love one another as I have loved you" (John, 13:34).

In our school, this Gospel value is lived out in daily life in many ways, including: forgiveness, freedom, tolerance, respect and relationships.

We aim to achieve this by:

- Extending pupils' knowledge and understanding of the range of accepted values in society
- Developing pupils' skills and attitudes, such as decision-making, self-control, consideration of others, having the confidence to act in accordance with one's principles and thinking through the consequences of actions
- Promoting, at an appropriate level, pupils' understanding of basic moral philosophy and the skills of analysis, debate, judgement and application to contemporary issues.

We understand that pupils who are becoming morally aware are likely to be developing some or all of the following characteristics:

- An ability to distinguish right from wrong, based on knowledge of the moral codes of their own and other cultures
- A confidence to act consistently in accordance with their own principles

- An ability to think through the consequences of their own and others' actions
- A willingness to express their views on ethical issues and personal values
- An ability to make responsible and reasoned judgements on moral dilemmas
- A commitment to personal values in areas which are considered right by some and wrong by others
- A considerate style of life
- A respect for the needs of others, interests and feelings as well as their own
- A desire to explore their own and others' views
- An understanding of the need to review and re-assess their values, codes and principles in the light of experience

We aim to encourage pupils' moral development by:

- Providing a clear moral code as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently through all aspects of the school
- Promoting measures to prevent discrimination on the basis of race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age and other criteria
- Giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values- for example, personal rights and responsibilities, truth, justice, equality of opportunity, right and wrong
- Developing an open and safe learning environment in which pupils can express their views and practise moral decision-making
- Rewarding expressions of moral insights and good behaviour
- Making an issue of breaches of agreed moral codes where they arise- for example, in the press, on television and the internet, as well as in school
- Modelling, through the quality of relationships and interactions, the principles which they wish to promote, for example, fairness, integrity, respect for others, pupils' welfare, respect for minority interests, resolution of conflict, keeping promises and contracts
- Recognising and respecting the codes and morals of the different cultures represented in the school and wider community
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions- for example, respect for property, care of the environment and developing codes of behaviour
- Providing models of moral virtue through literature, humanities, sciences, arts, assemblies and acts of worship
- Reinforcing the school's values through images, posters and classroom displays

Each class displays the class rules which are devised by the children at the start of the year.

Through Moral Education, we develop knowledge of:

1. How communities are organised and the importance of rules and laws

2. How communities reconcile the needs of individuals with those of society 3. Similarities and differences between individuals, groups and communities 4. Fairness, justice and moral responsibility

Cross Curricular Skills

1. Arguing a cause clearly and concisely
2. Making choices in the light of available evidence
3. Working with others

Attitudes

1. Independence of thought on social and moral issues
2. Respect for the processes of law and right of others
3. Respect for different ways of life, beliefs, opinions and ideas
4. A willingness to respect rational argument and non-violent ways of resolving conflict
5. A constructive interest in community affairs
6. An active concern for human rights
7. An appreciation of the importance of democratic decision making

Moral Codes and Values

Pupils should be helped to:

1. Develop a personal moral code and explore values and beliefs
2. Develop a concern for others
3. Develop self-respect and respect values such as integrity, honesty and truthfulness

Pupils should be given the opportunity to:

1. Compare values and beliefs held by themselves and others
2. Examine evidence, opinions and form conclusions
3. Discuss differences and resolve conflicts
4. Appreciate that the distinction between right and wrong is not always straight forward