

# Catholic Life and Mission Policy

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| <b>Policy implementation date</b> | <b>September 2026</b>                         |
| <b>Date of next review</b>        | <b>September 2027</b>                         |
| <b>Who reviewed this policy?</b>  | <b>Natasha Casely<br/>Deputy Head Teacher</b> |



## Catholic Life and Mission Policy

Our school Mission Statement at St. Edward's is:

**"Following Christ we reach our goals."**

### Vision

- To keep Jesus at the heart of everything we do.
- To walk in His footsteps and try our best every day

### Values

Our school values are rooted in the Gospels. Every day, we show:

- Truth and Respect
- Service and Forgiveness
- Humility and Dignity
- Tolerance and Faithfulness

### Bible Scripture

**"Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**

— John 8:12

Our Catholic faith is at the heart of everything we do. At St Edward's, we walk daily in **Christ's footsteps**, nurturing the unique, God-given talents of every child so that they may grow in faith and successfully reach their full academic, personal, and spiritual goals.

### Faith at the Heart of Our Community

Our school is more than a place of learning; it is a living faith community. We believe that by keeping Christ at the centre of our journey, we create an environment where pupils feel loved, safe, and inspired to become the people God created them to be.

*'Following Christ we reach our goals'*



## Our Gospel Values

At St Edward's our Gospel Values flow directly from the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, as revealed in Scripture. These values shape every aspect of our school community and are at the heart of our prayer, liturgy, relationships, and daily practice. They guide us in how we worship together, how we work together, and how we play together, ensuring that Christ remains present in all we do.

We explicitly teach, celebrate, and live out these eight core pillars:

- **Truth:** Encouraging honesty, integrity, and the courage to always do what is right in the eyes of God.
- **Respect:** Valuing the dignity of every individual as a unique creation made in the image and likeness of God.
- **Service:** Putting our faith into action by looking after one another and contributing generously to our local and global community.
- **Forgiveness:** Following Jesus' example by showing mercy, resolving conflicts with kindness, and offering fresh starts.
- **Humility:** Remaining modest, listening to others, and understanding that our talents are gifts from God to be used for the good of all.
- **Dignity:** Treating every person with deep worth and honor, ensuring everyone feels valued and safe in our school family.
- **Tolerance:** Celebrating our differences, promoting peace, and fostering a welcoming environment where everyone belongs.
- **Faithfulness:** Staying true to our promises, supporting one another, and trusting in God's love throughout our learning journey.

Through these values, we prepare our pupils to step out into the wider world as compassionate, responsible, and faithful citizens.

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## St Edward the Confessor

St Edward's serves as a profound cornerstone for our Catholic teaching and school leadership by embodying a living model of Christ-centred stewardship, humility, and active faith.

In Catholic education, leadership is a spiritual vocation rooted in Gospel values, and St Edward's provides our school leaders with an enduring blueprint for servant leadership. This inspiration is brought to life daily through our extensive charity work and community outreach, which mirror our patron saint's deep devotion to serving the vulnerable and poorest in society.

Furthermore, our leadership prioritises the spiritual formation of our community, beautifully anchored by the **St Edward's prayer room** —a sacred space at the heart of our school that fosters the same dedication to prayer, reflection, and peace that defined his holy life. By looking to St Edward as our guide, the leadership team at St Edward's is inspired to govern with compassion and integrity, ensuring our school remains a nurturing environment where students do not merely achieve academic success, but actively encounter and share the love of God

## Catholic Social Teaching at St Edward's

Catholic Social Teaching is founded in Scripture and includes statements and letters written by Church leaders. It offers wisdom and insights on living the Gospel in today's world. At the heart of Catholic Social Teaching is the profound belief in the dignity and the equality of every human person. Every individual is lovingly and beautifully made in the image and likeness of God. Because of this, every person is of value and deserves to be treated with respect, compassion and justice.

Pupils at St Edward's Catholic Primary School have been learning and practicing Catholic Social Teaching. Their faith calls them to love God and to love their neighbours, especially their sisters and brothers who are in need. ***Following in the footsteps of Christ*** our pupils believe that everyone has the power to contribute to making our world a better place for all.

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Pope Francis emphasises that it is our duty to work together to bring about a more just and peaceful world: to put love into action. It is vital that our children can articulate the connection between Jesus' teaching and doing good deeds. We use the CAFOD Catholic Social Teaching resources and the animal mascots to support the children's understanding of principles.

### Monitoring and evaluation:

Monitoring and evaluation of the quality and impact of Catholic Life and Mission will take place regularly, and at least annually, and involve all key stakeholders: pupils, parents, staff, clergy, and governors. Areas for development will be identified and issues raised will be actioned and evidenced as appropriate.

### Review:

The policy will be reviewed as part of the regular cycle of policy review conducted by the governors.

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