

ST CATHERINE'S CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL



PSHCE POLICY

May 2008

1. The Context

St Catherine's is a mixed sex comprehensive Catholic School for pupils aged 11-18 years. It is the only secondary Catholic school in Halifax and at present draws pupils from 6 primary schools within Halifax. It also attracts some pupils from primary schools in other parts of Calderdale.

2. Name of PSHCE co-ordinator : D TEMPLETON

- Reviewed by Coordinator of PSHCE and Governors Curriculum Committee

3. The Policy

Mission Statement and PSHCE

St Catherine's Catholic High School, in partnership with parents, aims to provide an education which reflects the life, values and teachings of Jesus Christ, within the moral, spiritual and doctrinal tradition of the Catholic Church.

In so doing the school will endeavour to:

- give all pupils and staff the opportunities to develop their potential spiritually, academically and socially
- put daily prayer, worship and liturgy as a central part in the life of the school
- ensure that we provide equality of opportunity by developing a curriculum which caters for the particular needs of pupils
- offer a curriculum based on effective teaching which is equally concerned with Christian values as with knowledge and skills
- encourage all members of the school to respect and value themselves and others
- encourage relationships which, at all levels of the school community, are based on respect, love and forgiveness
- work to develop a sense of responsibility for and awareness of the needs of others through families, parishes and the wider community
- create a safe, caring, challenging and enjoyable environment where pupils will be helped towards readiness for the opportunities and responsibilities of adult life

Aims of PSHCE

- Know and understand a healthy lifestyle
- Be aware of safety issues;
- Understand what makes for good relationships with others; Have respect for others;
- Be independent members of a community, such as school;
- Be positive and active members of a democratic society;
- Develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and make informed choices regarding personal and social issues;
- Develop good relationships with other members of the community.
PSHCE and five national outcomes
- Every Child Matters, which led to the Children Act (2004), emphasised that PSHE and Citizenship in schools play a vital role in achieving these outcomes. These are :
 - being healthy
 - staying safe
 - enjoying and achieving
 - making a positive contribution
 - achieving economic well-being.

School Curriculum

- PSHCE is taught as a discreet subject in Key Stage 3 and 4, pupils have one hour a week
- PSHE and citizenship topics are also taught in other subjects
- There is a large overlap between the programme of study for religious education and the aims of PSHE and citizenship, we deliver a considerable amount through our religious education lessons
- The school also makes use of the QCA units for teaching citizenship and PSHE at Key Stage 3 and 4
- PSHCE is taught by D Templeton (Coordinator), A Long (Inclusion) and T Hayden (Careers)
- Schemes of Work can be obtained from D Templeton

- The programme for PSHCE is continually being evaluated and monitored by the Coordinator

Approaches to Teaching and Learning

To facilitate pupils learning in PSHE and citizenship :

- ✓ The purpose of each lesson is made clear
- ✓ Appropriate learning experiences are planned and meet the needs of all the pupils in the class
- ✓ Learning experiences draw on pupils own experiences or existing knowledge and provide a range of opportunities for pupils to learn, practise and demonstrate skills, attitudes and knowledge and understanding
- ✓ Time is given for pupils to reflect, consolidate and apply their learning
- ✓ Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own learning and have a clear understanding of their own progress
- ✓ Attention is given to developing a safe and secure classroom climate
- ✓ Staff training needs are met
- We use a range of teaching and learning styles to meet the PSHE and citizenship requirements of the National Curriculum. We emphasise active learning by including the children in discussions, investigations and problem solving activities. We encourage children to take part in a range of tasks that promote active citizenship, for example charity fundraising, the planning of special school events (such as an assembly or open evening), involvement in school council. We organise classes in such a way that pupils are able, through discussion, to set agreed classroom rules of behaviour, and resolve any conflicts.
- We offer children to hear visiting speakers, such as; health workers, police, road safety representatives and connexions advisors, whom we invite into the school to talk about their role in creating a positive and supportive local community.
- We have a visitors policy
- The PSHCE Coordinator attends the Calderdale Network meetings, three times a year
- The PSHCE Coordinator has achieved the PSHE Certification

There are guidelines for staff on confidentiality and handling sensitive and controversial issues :

- Ground Rules are created and referred to throughout the PSHCE lessons (see Schemes of Work)
- Refer to Sex and Relationship Education policy
- Child Protection person : S Blackledge

Celebration of achievement – assessment, recording and reporting

As with any learning process assessment of pupils' personal, social and emotional development is important. It provides information which indicates pupils' progress and achievement and informs the development of the programme.

Pupils do not pass or fail within this area but have the opportunity to reflect on their own learning and personal experiences and to set personal goals and agree strategies to reach them. The process of assessment has a positive impact on pupil's self awareness and self esteem.

We do not assess pupils in all areas of the PSHE and citizenship programme. Pupils are assessed in terms of their; application of knowledge and speaking/listening. It is inappropriate to assess pupils' values.

- In key stage 3, pupils are formally assessed, thirteen times and the information is recorded on a spreadsheet in 'all departments and resources' on the school network
- AFL
- End of year reports
- Mid term reports on school data base.

Monitoring and Review

Our PSHE and citizenship coordinator is responsible for monitoring the standards of children's work and quality of teaching. Our coordinator supports colleagues in their teaching by giving them information about current development in the subject.

Signed: _____ (Head) Signed _____ (Chair of Governors)

Date ratified by Governing Body : May 2008

Date to be reviewed : May 2010

