



# **ST THOMAS CATHOLIC ACADEMIES TRUST**

## **Chaplaincy Policy**

**November 2020**

### **Trust Mission Statement**

*"The Glory of God is a human being fully alive!"*

### **St Mary's and St Vincent's Catholic Schools Mission Statement**

*"Growing in faith: Loving and Learning together with Jesus"*

## **RATIONALE**

Jesus Christ calls each one of us to fullness of life: "I have come that they may have life and have it to the full". (John 10).

Each person is precious in the eyes of God, worthy of the fullness of life, invited to a deep and personal relationship with Christ, called to membership of the Church community and to the help that can foster and support this relationship and membership. The chaplaincy is committed to helping each member of the school community to grow in faith and service, seeking to foster community cohesion and prepare children for life within a multi faith society.

## **AIMS and OBJECTIVES**

1. To foster in each individual a growing awareness of God's unique and infinite love for them and encourage a lasting and maturing relationship with Him.
  - a. To offer daily opportunities for prayer and reflection.
  - b. To provide prayerful, meaningful liturgies especially Mass and the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
  - c. To offer an opportunity for children to experience the benefits of 'Retreat', where they can take time to pray, reflect and share with others.
  - d. To offer all children and staff opportunities to be involved in the work of the Chaplaincy.
  - e. To encourage children and staff to participate actively in the liturgical seasons of the year.
  - f. To establish clear whole-school procedures that will help to generate a supportive atmosphere for liturgies and assemblies.
  - g. To prepare liturgies for staff on Training Days.
  - h. To actively involve priests within the life of the school.
  - i. To invite inspirational speakers who will give witness to their faith.
  
2. To encourage the whole school community to reflect God's love for us in the way we demonstrate our love for our neighbour
  - a. To co-ordinate charitable fundraising in the school encouraging staff and children to be involved.
  - b. To offer spiritual guidance and counselling to individuals that require help.
  
3. To give children the opportunity to hear and reflect on the teachings of the Catholic Church while appreciating the moral truths found among other Christian denominations and other faiths.
  - a. To nurture Christian Vocation in Children and staff
  - b. To encourage staff and children to be actively involved in their parishes e.g. receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, attending retreats etc
  - c. To foster links with the schools of the local Catholic Schools' Partnership and the Diocese of Northampton
  - d. To seek opportunities to work with children of other faiths both in our own school and elsewhere.

## **Equality Monitoring**

Date: 16/05/2017

- 1. Does this policy have any implications for people of relevant protected characteristics\*?**  
*Yes, if this policy is adhered to then race relations within the school and community will continue to be very positive.*
  
- 2. If 'yes', will it advantage or disadvantage any particular group?**  
*It should not disadvantage or advantage any group.*
  
- 3. How will this policy, if relevant, promote good relations between people of RPC and those without?**  
*The objectives are directing children and staff to behave in a particular way towards other faiths and cultures which will promote good relations.*

*Monitored by Governors Behaviour and Catholic Life Committee*

## ***Success Criteria***

- Diocesan Section 48 Inspection has a positive view of Chaplaincy in the school