

Duddon Saint Peter's CE School



Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy

**“As good stewards of the varied gifts given you by God, let each
use the gift he has received in service to others.”**

(1 Peter 4)

Duddon Saint Peter's School seeks to provide a welcoming and loving environment for the pupils, their parents, the Governors and staff. The needs of children are recognised and the development of their individual gifts and potential interests is encouraged.

Our work seeks to encourage a Christian ethos where we respect the views of each other and live in the footsteps of Jesus and his followers. Worship plays an important part in daily life. Each day begins with an act of worship which is a focus for the work of the day and the festivals and events of the Church year are marked by services in school and, for major festivals, in Saint Peter's Church. Such worship provides a meaningful religious experience which is often developed in the classroom as part of the Religious Education programme.

Appropriate behaviour is regarded as a personal responsibility of each pupil and older pupils are encouraged to look after the needs of the younger children. Behaviour problems are discussed in the classroom and openness and sensitivity is encouraged amongst the pupils. Close ties exist with parents who are encouraged to maintain a continuing dialogue about the progress of their children; specific problems can usually be solved through this co-operation and dialogue. From the moment they begin in the Foundation Unit, we meet parents and children and this brings a most positive attitude to school life. Our pupils are supported through the major change to High School life and staff ensure that this transition is as smooth as possible; close ties exist between the partner school, Tarporley High, and with the other schools to which our pupils transfer. On many occasions continuing dialogue between High School staff and Duddon Saint Peter's helps to resolve questions and problems that may arise in the early months of transfer.

Through our developmental work in school the concepts of right and wrong are addressed and the qualities of honesty and truth in relationships are encouraged. The strength that comes from developing a strong work ethic is acknowledged in the planning of the curriculum and classroom tasks. It is hoped that we encourage the skills that pupils need to take a full part in their community. The school provides a

lively learning environment that encourages a respect of each other and for the buildings, grounds and resources that are provided.

The school has strong community connections and an extensive involvement in addressing the needs of the wider community and world problems through charity links. Our services held in Church are open to parents, grand-parents, friends and the community. Pupils have led carol services for groups in neighbouring villages. A number of Charity links are made each term and form part of the worship plan for the year. The school has supported the Operation Christmas Child project to provide gifts for people in Romania and Croatia; the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association; Red Nose Day; Children in Need, Fair Trade and many others. In recent years other charities supported have included The Salvation Army, the Children in Distress project to supply a hospital in Albania, Help for Heroes and local hospices. Through the invitation of charity representatives we seek to widen the horizons of our pupils and encourage an awareness of the needs of others both in the community, other parts of this country and in the world.

Visitors to our worship strengthen community awareness and many representatives of local and national charities have joined us to speak of their work. The vicar, the Reverend Adam Friend, is a frequent visitor to school and participates in all of the Church services and also joins us for school worship. He takes regular assemblies each week in school and talks to groups of children on subjects such as baptism and weddings.

It is felt strongly that a broad and balanced curriculum serves our pupils best and helps to develop a cultural awareness. Art, music and literature are important elements in the life of the school. Artists and musicians are frequent visitors to the school. Live performances from musicians and theatre groups are arranged. During this school year the children have been involved in workshops with an artist specialising in natural materials and enjoyed visits from the theatre and music groups. Pupils are encouraged to become competent, confident and fluent readers. The curriculum policies indicate the development of a cultural awareness.

The following policy statements have particular links with this statement:

Religious Education and Worship

School Development Plan

Child Protection

Bullying

Equal opportunities, including multi-racial issues

Music

Art

Literacy

Date: *November 2021*

Date of review *Autumn 2013*