

ST COLUMBA'S CATHOLIC BOYS' SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' POLICY STATEMENT



Curriculum Policy

Head Teacher: Mr N Fisher
School Lead: Dr L Fripps
Chair of Governors: Mrs J Johnson

Originator Date	October 2016
Review Date	Autumn 2019

Vision Statement

Our school is an inclusive place of learning that celebrates and welcomes diversity. Every member of our community is a unique and special creation of God and is known, cared for and valued for the contribution they make. Every student is challenged and supported to achieve his best.

Our Vision Statement informs our priorities identified in the School Development Plan :

**Inclusion
Spirituality
Achievement**

St Columba's Catholic Boys' School follows the curriculum guidance outlined in the Single Academy Model Mainstream Funding Agreement. It ensures that a broad and balanced curriculum is provided to its students, incorporating English, Maths and Science qualifications along with the provision of religious education teaching for 11-16.

In line with the funding agreement Section 25 (C) The Archdiocese of Southwark (Education Commission) will be the Inspecting Person for Religious Education, Collective Worship, and the Catholic Life of the School (Section 48 Inspection).

The curriculum at KS3 and KS4 follows the National Curriculum. The Religious Education curriculum, along with morning tutor time, provides ample opportunity to cover a comprehensive programme of personal, social and health education, along with careers advice and guidance. We also employ the services of 'Prospects' to provide our students within independent Careers Information Advice and Guidance.

Objectives relating to the curriculum aims of St Columba's Catholic Boys' School are:

- St Columba's Catholic Boys' School is a community where the Gospel values inform all aspects of community life and learning;
- We seek to promote the dignity, self-esteem and full development of each person who is made in God's image and uniquely loved by God;
- We seek to prepare and empower our students to meet and gain from the opportunities and challenges in an ever changing technological society;
- We provide a comprehensive curriculum for all students to enable success;
- That all students should be offered a curriculum that has breadth and depth. It must be tailored to each student and satisfy their requirements;
- That students should become aware of their abilities and in so doing should develop them to their maximum potential;

- That students should be aware of the needs of the community and be prepared to contribute fully to the life of the community;
- That students who leave St Columba's should be articulate, literate and numerate, and have lively, enquiring, independent minds;
- That students who leave St Columba's should:
 - be confident in their dealings with adults and peers;
 - be able to develop good working relationships with others;
 - have knowledge of a wide range of cultures and through this come to respect the rights and needs of others;
 - be able to make good moral judgements;
 - have developed a love of learning that will last for the rest of their lives;
 - be adaptable enough to react to the needs of a fast changing world.

Details of the curriculum can be found on the school's website.

Equal Opportunities

The equality act 2010 states that schools have a duty to have "due regard" to equality considerations whenever significant decisions are being made or policies developed. Our Vision Statement clearly defines our approach to equality – all decisions have due regard to the advancement of equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it. The protected characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership and pregnancy and maternity.

Religious Education

Religious education is available to all students and is regarded a core subject in our curriculum to manifest our ethos as a Catholic School.

Collective Worship

All students are expected to take part in a daily collective act of worship. The worship is mainly of a Catholic/Christian character.

Parents have the right to withdraw their children from acts of collective worship. Parents should inform the Head Teacher in writing if they wish to withdraw their child from collective worship.

Education in Human Love

The school provides sex education in the basic curriculum for all students, in which students are encouraged and guided by moral principle and taught to recognise the value of family life.

A full statement of the schools' Education in Human Love Policy is available to parents. It has been drawn up in consultation with staff, students, parents and takes into account the views of representatives from the community. It is modelled on the Policy presented by the Archdiocese of Southwark.

In accordance with the law the biological aspects of human reproduction remain compulsory for all students, but parents may withdraw their children from any other part of the sex education provided without giving reasons.

PE and Games

All students are expected to take part in the school's physical education and games programme. Students can only be excused from PE and games lessons for medical reasons, for which a note from a parent will suffice, or other reasons agreed with the school.

Special Educational Needs and Disability

The school has a special educational needs and disability policy for students with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and other students. The school will determine the appropriate courses in consultation with parents.