



Cheadle Catholic Junior School

"Following in the footsteps of Jesus"

Faith - Respect - Growth

Chaplaincy Policy

September 2023

POLICY AUTHOR	RACHEL FENDER HEADTEACHER
CREATED:	SEPTEMBER 2023
*PENDING RATIFICATION BY BY THE GOVERNING BOARD	NOVEMBER 2023
TO BE REVIEWED:	SEPTEMBER 2025

Chaplaincy Policy

Philosophy

At Cheadle Catholic Junior School we recognise the need for the chaplaincy role to help foster and maintain the Catholic ethos in our school. We believe its purpose is to serve the personal and spiritual needs of the school community both staff and pupils alike. In the light of our mission statement we acknowledge that within our Catholic community we will act as chaplains to one another and to the children and parents through our everyday actions and behaviour.

Aim

Our aim is to develop the role of chaplaincy through links with the local parishes that serve our school. The local clergy support us in this and, as far as possible, endeavour to provide us with school chaplaincy support. The RE subject leader is the named chaplaincy co-ordinator but this responsibility is shared with the Head teacher and Deputy Headteacher. We believe the role of chaplaincy fulfills a number of purposes:

For the future we see a chaplain as a team, who are available to staff and pupils to offer help and support. The specific role of the chaplains will be to work with others to offer spiritual and personal support in a manner that demonstrates the care and compassion of Christ.

We believe the role of chaplaincy should fulfill a number of purposes:

- The school and staff have spiritual and emotional support in times of need,
- To act as a listener and give support to those who might seek their help,
- To develop talents and ministries among staff and pupils,

- To support the pattern of worship in the school,
- Join with pupils and staff in celebrations and acts of worship,
- Invite local clergy to visit the school and meet with the staff and children as often as they are able,
- To involve those missionary visitors linked to the Diocese in school life in order to develop an understanding and awareness of the wider Church.

Strategies

- We use the celebration opportunities within the liturgical calendar to involve the local clergy in the children's celebrations,
- The staff will plan and prepare liturgies with the children with appropriate styles of prayer and worship,
- The chaplaincy team will work collaboratively with others to explore and develop the mission and ministry of the chaplaincy role by attending relevant meetings and identifying appropriate training to broaden the chaplaincy team within the school.

The current position:

The governors and staff are committed to providing the best chaplaincy provision they can. We do not at present have a named chaplain but Father Tony McGrath (ChristChurch) and Father Louis Charuvila Pappy (St Ann's and St Chad's) visit the school, meeting with staff and pupils.

We liaise with all three parishes regarding Sacramental preparation and Liturgical feasts and the children are invited to take part in important Church celebrations e.g. Christmas Celebrations, Good Friday, Easter Celebrations and Children's Masses.

Responsibilities and Organisation

The RE subject leader, Head teacher and Deputy Headteacher will continue to oversee Chaplaincy (see appendix one).

The RE subject leader will work collaboratively with others to explore and develop the mission and ministry of the school by attending relevant meetings and identifying appropriate training. The RE lead will prepare the worship programme as outlined in our policy on Prayer and Worship. Staff will prepare the liturgies with the children and parents will be given opportunities to attend these services.

Resources

The school hall and our Prayer Room are made available for liturgies and for practices. Throughout the year, each class attends a number of Wednesday Mass celebrations as part of the daily parish Mass at ChristChurch, which parents are also invited to attend. This has helped to build up a closer community link with the school. Class Masses for selected feast days are held in school.

Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

It is the responsibility of our Governing Body to agree and then monitor the school Religious Education Policies. The committee of the governing body for curriculum issues does this together with the Head teacher and RE subject leader. The Head teacher will report to the Governors in the termly report on issues relating to this policy.

Further Action

- To develop child chaplaincy representatives.
- To identify appropriate training within the continuing professional development programme to enable staff to develop understanding of the chaplaincy role within the school and plan future provision