



ST JAMES THE LESS RC PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHARTER OF BEST PRACTICE

From my head to my heart, from one shoulder to the other I belong to you God our Father

1. PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

As a member of staff we will:

- Be polite and respectful to all members of the school community
- Lead by example to promote self and school in a positive and professional manner
- Listen to needs and suggestions of stakeholders and act appropriately to ensure all feel their contributions are valued whilst recognising the need for confidentiality
- Wear appropriate clothing which is fit for purpose and reflective of our expectations of the children
- Work together as a team, while recognising each others strengths and weaknesses
- Act upon advice and feedback and be receptive to coaching and mentoring
- Keep up to date with current research driven educational innovations and adapt practice to enhance learning experience of children

2. LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Within our classrooms and the shared areas we will provide:

- Dyslexia friendly features
- Helpful displays, resources and prompts
- Learning walls
- Adaptive teaching strategies
- Accessible resources placed at child level
- Availability of coloured overlays
- Appropriate whiteboard backgrounds
- Visual timetable and prompts
- Simple print/ letters recognisable
- Personal resources

Speech, language and communication-friendly features:

- Clear, simple instructions with child friendly language
- Vocabulary displayed
- Model speaking and listening with accurate diction and grammar
- Regular partner/group / thinking time

Ethos / Behaviour: -

- Live by the school mission statement and fully support the Catholic ethos of the school
- Promote wellbeing opportunities for children such as reflection, mindfulness, prayerfulness and outdoor activities
- Daily collective act of worship
- Consistent approach and expectations
- Rewards prominently displayed
- Dojo points to support whole school incentives
- Golden Time promoted to encourage excellent work
- Children are encouraged to display good manners
- Behaviour and attitude should reflect our multicultural and diverse society in modern Britain.

Displays

- Worship focused displays in all classrooms
- Changed in relation to taught topics
- Cross curricular
- Enable learning
- Aimed at children's level
- Informative to age related curriculum
- Learning walls
- Celebrate achievement
- Balance of children's work and working walls

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Classroom Organisation:

- An inviting and tidy classroom environment which supports independent learners
- Accessible, labelled resources which are treated carefully and relevant to the needs of learners
- An attractive area to promote love of reading in all classrooms

Beyond the classroom:

- An expectation that everyone understands their responsibility in and out of the classroom
- A meticulous focus on safety aspects across the school
- Ensuring that tidiness is commonplace in all parts of school
- Children encouraged to take responsibility for environment and resources - Pride Around School
- Sense of ownership throughout school
- Calm movement around school

To promote eco-friendly practice and policy:

- Turn off all electrical items not being used, including lights, projectors and interactive boards
- Ensure children and adults recycle - paper bin and compost
- Reuse where possible
- Recycle batteries and printer cartridges
- Find opportunities to discuss sustainability principles with all children

3. Quality First Teaching in all lessons

In our delivery of the curriculum, we will:

- Have high expectations of and great ambition for our pupils
- Use cognitive strategies and metacognitive strategies to enable long-term retention
- Meet the needs of all pupils
- Use a range of teaching approaches which will
 - Encourage
 - Motivate
 - Support
 - Nourish
 - Enthuse and inspire
- Use a range of resources and teaching styles to account for the varying learning styles of children including creative use of outdoors
- Ensure the children learn something new
- Incorporate innovative 21st Century learning and research-based learning tools into wider aspects of curriculum
- Provide enriching, cross-curricular reading opportunities
- Guarantee a safe and happy environment
- Provide that are engaging, challenging and scaffolded as appropriate
- Share learning outcomes and objectives and display these during all taught sessions
- Clearly display and model 'Steps to Success' so children clearly understand how to be successful learners
- Provide children time to think and interact with other children (talk partners, hot-seating, debate)
- Praise effectively and offer relevant improvement points
- Use effective questioning techniques
- Use peer and self assessment processes
- Make effective use of adult support to enhance learning
- Use mini plenary throughout the session to review and extend learning

Updated Spring 2025

Our Mission Statement

Safe and secure in our friendly catholic school
Joyful and happy with Jesus in our hearts
To be the best that we can be
Love and respect for the uniqueness of everyone