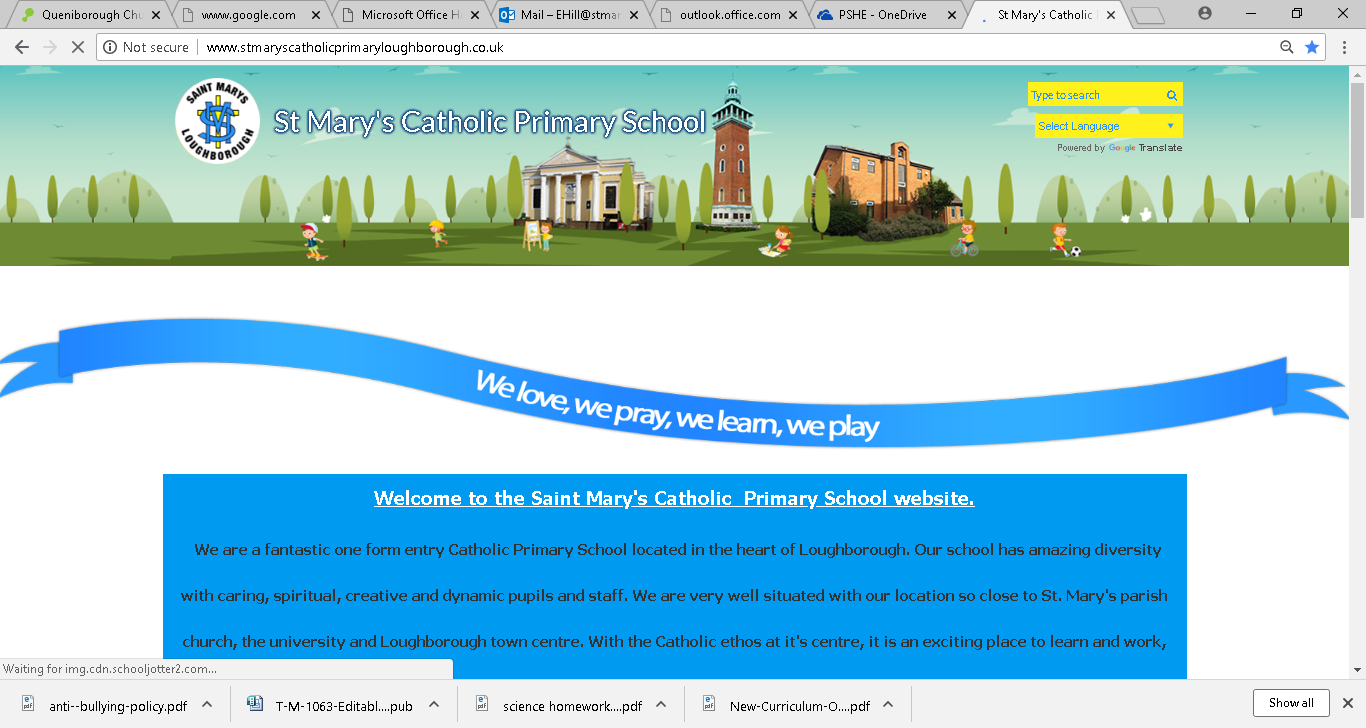
**Saint Mary’s Catholic Primary School**

**Policy on PSHE and SMSC**

**Introduction**

The Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural (SMSC) development of pupils and the provision of effective Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education are closely linked with the overall effectiveness of schools (Ofsted 2011). Promotion of British Values should be incorporated throughout the curriculum and these values underpin the basis of our whole school, cross-curricular approach to the teaching of PSHE.

**What Is Personal, Social, Health and Economic Education?**

Personal, social, health and economic (PSHE) education is an important and necessary part of all pupils’ education. All schools should teach PSHE, drawing on good practice, and this expectation is outlined in the introduction to the proposed new national curriculum.

PSHE is a non-statutory subject. To allow teachers the flexibility to deliver high-quality PSHE we consider it unnecessary to provide new standardised frameworks or programmes of study. PSHE can encompass many areas of study. Teachers are best placed to understand the needs of their pupils and do not need additional central prescription.

However, while we believe that it is for schools to tailor their local PSHE programme to reflect the needs of their pupils, we expect schools to use their PSHE education programme to equip pupils with a sound understanding of risk and with the knowledge and skills necessary to make safe and informed decisions.

Schools should seek to use PSHE education to build, where appropriate, on the statutory content already outlined in the national curriculum, the basic school curriculum and in statutory guidance on: drug education, financial education, sex and relationship education (SRE) and the importance of physical activity and diet for a healthy lifestyle.

(Department for Education 2013)

Under the Education Act (2002) / Academies Act (2010) all schools must provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum which:

•Promotes the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of students at the school and of society.

•Prepares students at the school for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

**Principles and Values**

St Mary’s Catholic School believes that PSHEshould:

• Develop a pupil’s knowledge and understanding of what is meant by a healthy lifestyle.

• Promote independent and responsible members of the school and local community.

• Encourage every student to be positive and active members of a democratic society.

• Develop self-confidence and self-esteem, and assist pupils to make informed choices regarding personal and social issues.

• Develop good relationships with other members of the school and the wider community.

• Encourage pupils and teachers to share and respect each other’s views.

• Generate an atmosphere where questions and discussion can take place without any stigma or embarrassment.

• Recognise that we belong to a wider community and the choices and decisions we make can affect other people and make a difference to the world we live in..

• Enable students to be aware of safety issues.

• Encourage respect for others regardless of race, gender and mental and physical disability.

**Aims**

Our PSHE programme aims to prepare students for an adult life in which they can:

• Receive accurate and relevant knowledge.

•Experience opportunities to turn knowledge into personal understanding.

• Explore, clarify and if necessary challenge, their own and others’ values, attitudes, beliefs, rights and responsibilities.

• Be aware of the skills and strategies they need in order to live healthy, safe, fulfilling, responsible and balanced lives.

• Be successful learners who enjoy learning, make progress and achieve.

• Be responsible citizens who make a positive contribution to society.

• Develop positive values and a moral framework that will guide their decisions, judgements and behaviour; have the confidence and self-esteem to value themselves and others and respect for individual conscience and the skills to risk assess any situation in which they may find themselves.

•Stay safeand make informed choices about their safety.

• Communicate effectively by developing appropriate language.

At Saint Mary’s, PSHE is planned through a cross curricular, whole school approach involving the Religious Education programme “Come and See”, Science, History, Geography, Maths and English as well as promotion of school council, eco-council, FFLP, sports and house captains and the buddy system (reading buddies, prayer partners, friendship buddies).

**Organisation and Teaching of PSHE**

PSHE is planned through a cross curricular, whole school approach involving the Religious Education programme “Come and See”, Science, History, Geography, Maths and English as well as promotion of school council, eco-council, FFLP, sports and house captains and the buddy system (reading buddies, prayer partners, friendship buddies). From September 2015 school is supplementing PSHE with the LCP PSHE scheme of work to consider subjects such as rights and responsibilities, democracy and living as part of a modern global society in more depth. PSHE in Saint Mary’s follows the PSHE Association suggested programme of study which outlines the areas to be taught within each theme:

Health and Wellbeing

* What is meant by a healthy lifestyle.
* How to maintain physical, mental and emotional health and wellbeing.
* How to manage risks to physical and emotional health and wellbeing.
* Ways of keeping physically and emotionally safe.
* About managing change, such as puberty, transition and loss.
* How to make informed choices about health and wellbeing and to recognise sources of help with this.
* How to respond in an emergency.
* To identify different influences on health and wellbeing.

Relationships

* How to develop and maintain a variety of healthy relationships, within a range of social/cultural contexts.
* How to recognise and manage emotions within a range of relationships.
* How to recognise risky or negative relationships including all forms of bullying and abuse.
* How to respond to risky or negative relationships and ask for help.
* How to respect equality and diversity in relationships.

Living in the wider world

* About respect for self and others and the importance of responsible behaviours and actions.
* About rights and responsibilities as members of families, other groups and ultimately as citizens.
* About different groups and communities.
* To respect equality and to be a productive member of a diverse community.
* About the importance of respecting and protecting the environment.
* About where money comes from, keeping it safe and the importance of managing it effectively.
* How money plays an important part in people’s lives.
* A basic understanding of enterprise.

**Other initiatives, policies and curriculum links**

PSHE is linked with a variety of initiatives in place at Saint Mary’s School. We are committed to the Healthy Schools initiative and to giving our children the best information we can regarding healthy lifestyles, so that they are able to make informed choices for themselves. Our newly formed School Nutrition Action Group (SNAG) as part of our commitment to the Food For Life Programme (FFLP) aims to improve food culture in school. We will begin to grow some of our own food and look at where the rest of our food comes from. There is an over-subscribed extra-curricular cookery club and all pupils are given the opportunity to take part. When there are charity days and special events, children make food to sell to raise money for these events.

At Saint Mary’s School our children are encouraged to develop their thinking skills through questioning and debating issues that might arise in their own lives and those of others. We believe that children, who are given the opportunity to share their ideas and opinions within the safe environment of the classroom, are children who will ultimately grow in confidence, enabling them to make better decisions for themselves both inside and outside of school.

The school has an active School Council and Eco-Council with elected representatives from all year groups. The School Council meets weekly to discuss the views of pupils, to make decisions and decide on actions to contribute to school improvement.

All children need to feel valued and should be given the opportunities to succeed to the best of their abilities. Our school isdedicated to delivering teaching that is stimulating and appropriate to every child’s needs, ensuring the inclusion of all pupils, for example pupils with Special Educational Needs and Gifted Able and Talented pupils, as well as with regard to gender and equality issues. This is done through carefully planned lessons and if necessary, the dedicated care of our Pastoral team.

The social, moral, spiritual and cultural welfare of children is embedded within the curriculum and each week there is a value statement of the week. At the end of the week a child is chosen from each class who has best encapsulated the value.

School has newly formed French partnerships, including schools in Loughborough’s twin town of Epinal and a school in Ghana. This helps promote positive relationships and helps children understand we are part of a European and global community.

School supports a local homeless charity throughout the year. Children fill shoe boxes each Christmas for Samaritan’s purse and they understand that the gifts are for children worse off than themselves living in difficult, war-torn parts of the world in poverty and conflict. School supports Marie-Curie and Cafod and children often take the initiative to organise fund-raising themselves.

Children are encouraged to understand that they make decisions which affect not only themselves but impact on others and can affect their community, society and the world they live in.

PSHE is delivered throughout the curriculum both as discreet lessons where necessary and within the whole school ethos of developing each child within a well-balanced, child centred curriculum. The PSHE policy should be read in conjunction with the British Values and Prevention of Radicalisation Policy, Drug Education Policy, SRE policy and Food Policy.

The values, aims and principles of PSHE are put into practice in every day life at school through:

* Relationships between staff and children 
* Parental involvement 
* Roots project with the University of Loughborough
* Health weeks
* Other faiths weeks
* School and class councils 
* Sport and house captains
* The buddy system
* Prayer partners
* Year 6 Mentors
* School visits 
* Collective worship 
* Fund-raising events 
* Participation in the Young People’s Parliament 
* Mayoral visit
* Use of outside agencies 
* Physical environment.

**The role of the subject leader**

The role of the PSHE Subject Leader includes the following:

• To prepare a policy and scheme of work, evaluating and reviewing as necessary.

• To co-ordinate and lead the implementation of the policy throughout the school.

• To monitor and support the teaching of PSHE throughout the school.

• To keep up to date with developments and use appropriately.

• To provide INSET activities when necessary.

• To liaise with colleagues in school and outside agencies as appropriate, in order to further develop the opportunities for pupil engagement.

**Awe and Wonder**

At Saint Mary’s, we believe the spiritual development of each child is fundamental to their well-being and personal development, making them reflective, thoughtful citizens, aware of their own needs and the needs of others. Awe and wonder moments provide moments of emotion, comfort and joy and are moments that are long remembered and can have a significant impact on children’s learning experience.

What do we mean by ‘Awe and Wonder’?

The feeling as a child of seeing something so amazing it feels wonderful, special, illuminating and amazing. That is awe and wonder.  
 At St. Mary’s we feel that this magical feeling should be fostered and actively promoted throughout the curriculum for all children and adults.  
The world around us is a very special place and as a Catholic school we believe that God's creation is something to be explored and celebrated at every opportunity.

We are privileged to be able to play an active role in the spiritual development of our pupils and encourage reflection, enquiry and a sense of 'something other'.  
 

E.Hill, updated September 2018