



St. Brendan's Catholic Primary School



Chaplaincy Policy

Presented to Governors: June 2023

Adopted by Governors: June 2023

Renewal Date: June 2025

'Always treat others as you would like them to treat you'

(Matthew Ch 7 v 12)

Introduction

In the light of our Mission Statement, Chaplaincy is understood as the way help and encouragement is offered to staff and pupils as they try to fulfil their respective roles within the school community. We recognise and appreciate the role played by staff, parents, priests, governors and pupils as we try to fulfil our aim of being "a community which has Jesus at the heart of all we do."

The Aims of the Chaplaincy

- To create a safe, secure and stimulating learning environment.
- To create an inclusive community where all members are valued, share a commitment towards the pursuit of high standards and understand their role in achieving them.
- To develop a supportive and challenging environment, where expectations in achievement and personal relationships are high.
- To deliver a balanced and broad curriculum, where children can achieve, enjoy and develop self-esteem.
- To develop children's skills, knowledge and confidence, enabling them to make a positive contribution to society.
- To achieve a dynamic interaction between home, school, parish and the wider community to ensure the needs of all members of the school family are met.

People in the Chaplaincy Team

The St. Brendan's chaplaincy team is a collaborative ministry which brings together in a partnership people who, through faith, have different gifts and skills to offer. Our chaplaincy team at St Brendan's consists of:

Mrs Leanne Brydon Headteacher

Mrs Lorraine Barron-Edgley RE Subject Leader and Chaplaincy Lead

Hannah O'Neill - class teacher

The welfare of staff and pupils is given high priority by the leadership.

However, through the pastoral care exhibited towards the needs of the pupils, all members of staff within the school contribute to a whole school approach to Chaplaincy.

Responsibilities

The Chaplaincy team aim to:

support the school in emphasising its spirituality and Catholicity as set out in the school's mission statement.

support and encourage the school's pastoral care for the whole school, pupils, staff and parents;

promote, plan and organise the celebration of liturgies and co-operate with others in developing the school as a Christian community;

Liturgy

While our chaplain celebrates school mass, all staff and pupils take responsibility, and are involved, in the preparation of school and class masses and other liturgical events, such as an Ash Wednesday Service.

Sacraments

Children are prepared for Reconciliation and Eucharist in Year Three. During this time of preparation, staff, parents and priests all contribute to the children's spiritual development.

Children regularly have the opportunity to receive the Eucharist at school and class/whole school masses.

The chaplain offers children the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation on a regular basis - every term.

Children are prepared for Confirmation during Year Six. The responsibility for this lies with the class teacher/RE subject lead with input from parents, clergy and other members of our school community.

Planning and Organisation

The school management team, in liaison with the chaplain, organises the dates of school masses. All staff are made aware of the dates at the beginning of each academic year, so that they can plan for their mass accordingly. Class masses are organised by the class teacher in consultation with the R.E. coordinator and the chaplain. **Class masses are organised by the RE lead, class teacher and parish priest.**

The Sacraments of Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation are all celebrated at the local church.

An RE report is given at each governors meeting and chaplaincy issues are discussed regularly.

Confidentiality and Child Protection

The diocese has published guidelines on confidentiality and child protection, as has Northamptonshire County Council. These will be made available to chaplaincy members by the school and should always be adhered to.