

Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi-Academy Trust (CMAT)



Policy on Catholic Life & Mission

Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy welcomes everyone in our community as we share the joys of our Faith. We worship, learn and play together in the love of Jesus, helping one another to develop the talents given to us by God.

“Believe and Achieve at Christ the King.”

We aim to live out our mission by:

- Establishing and continually nurturing a Catholic ethos that is evident in all aspects of school life.
- Teaching, modelling and embedding Gospel values until they become lived virtues.
- Creating a distinctively Catholic culture in which all members of the community are encouraged to lead virtuous lives.
- Providing frequent opportunities for conscious, active participation in collective worship.
- Ensuring faith is central to our learning environment and curriculum.
- Delivering a creative, enriching and inclusive curriculum for all pupils.
- Promoting the virtues of faith, hope and charity.
- Embedding Gospel values across all school policies and decision-making.
- Supporting children to understand their vocation and God’s unique purpose for them.
- Working closely with the parish to support the Sacramental Programme.
- Raising awareness of the needs of others locally, nationally and globally.
- Strengthening links with our parish, diocese and the wider community.

Vision

At Christ the King, we strive to build a caring Catholic community rooted in the example and teachings of Jesus Christ. His message of love, forgiveness and compassion shapes the life of our school and guides the actions of pupils, staff, parents and governors.

We provide a challenging, broad and balanced curriculum that reflects our Catholic ethos and supports the development of the whole child. We believe everybody matters and are committed to fostering respect for one another and for God's creation.

Inclusion Statement

The Governors are committed to genuine inclusion in education. This involves minimising barriers to learning and participation so that each child can flourish.

We recognise that every child is unique, with individual needs and gifts. As the Catholic Bishops' Conference (2014) reminds us: *"Belief in the individual leads Catholic schools to have the duty to care for the poor and to educate those who are socially, academically, physically or emotionally disadvantaged."*

Equal Opportunities

We believe all people are entitled to equal opportunity, respect and dignity, regardless of race, colour, creed, gender, disability or personal circumstances. We oppose all forms of prejudice and unfair discrimination. This commitment applies equally to adults and children within our school community.

Rationale

Religious Education is central to the life and mission of a Catholic school. It is not simply another subject but the foundation of the entire educational process. Rooted in the Christian understanding of the human person, RE enables pupils to explore the richness of faith and to encounter Christ. As the Catholic Bishops' Conference notes (2014), Catholic schools provide a distinctive form of education shaped by this vision.

Intent

Christ the King is a place where every child is valued as a child of God. We strive to enable all pupils to achieve their full potential and grow spiritually, academically and personally.

Our curriculum is grounded in the Gospel, Catholic Social Teaching and British values - it is knowledge-rich, ambitious and designed to inspire all learners.

Through a broad and balanced curriculum, we aim to build the knowledge, skills and virtues children need to become compassionate, resilient and successful young people rooted in their faith.

Catholic Character Formation

One of the three pillars of outstanding Catholic education is the formation of character. At Christ the King, we aim to create a safe, nurturing environment where children are supported to grow into virtuous and confident young people.

Our approach to character formation is embodied in **The CTK Way**. Christ is at the centre of who we are and what we do. We explicitly teach the virtues and expectations that contribute to a flourishing school community.

Our Gospel Values

- **Love**
- **Forgiveness**
- **Compassion**
- **Gratitude**

- **Hope**
- **Service**
- **Justice**

When practised daily, these values become virtues—positive habits that form the character of our pupils and shape our school culture. The CTK Way also underpins our behaviour policy and sets out clearly the routines and expectations that enable children to thrive both in school and beyond.

Catholic Social Teaching

Jesus said, *“Love one another as I have loved you”* (John 13:34).

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) provides a practical framework for living out this commandment in the modern world.

Each year group explores a different CST principle, including:

- **Human Dignity**
- **Care for Creation**
- **Solidarity**
- **The Common Good**
- **Option for the Poor**
- **Justice and Peace**
- **Subsidiarity**

Through scripture, the lives of the saints, prayer and reflection, pupils learn how to live these principles as signs of faith in action as they progress through the school.

The CTK Experience

Education at Christ the King is more than academic learning. The **CTK Experience** ensures every child has access to a rich programme of opportunities beyond the classroom, regardless of background.

Our Catholic Faith is at the centre of the CTK Experience which is divided into 6 Key Areas:

The CTK Experience includes:

- **Catholic Life** – Active participation in the prayer and worship life of the school (See Prayer and Liturgy policy)
- **Faith in Action** – Charity, service and living out Gospel values. (See Charities Policy)
- **Visits, Trips and Retreats** – Regular learning opportunities beyond school.
- **Sports, Clubs and Activities** – Broad enrichment for all pupils.
- **Performance, Culture and Creativity** – Developing artistic and cultural talents.
- **Missions, Vocations and Futures** – Helping pupils discern their God-given gifts and aspirations.

Living Out Catholic Life at Christ the King

We celebrate and live out our Catholic identity by:

- **Valuing our environment** – Eco Warriors, gardening club, Laudato Si’ projects, **Prayer & Care groups**.
- **Valuing others** – Anti-bullying initiatives, behaviour expectations, inclusive policies.
- **Valuing our faith** – Daily prayer, collective worship, chaplaincy group, parish links, church and clergy visits
- **Valuing our community** – Inspire Workshops, year group masses, summer BBQ, outreach, stakeholder engagement.
- **Valuing achievement** – Individual house points, Star of Week certificates, Missionary awards, Head of School awards, lunchtime teacher certificates and house celebrations.
- **Challenging others and ourselves** – Charity work, social justice initiatives, striving for excellence.
- **Loving one another as Jesus taught us** – Reflecting Christ’s love through our actions.

Pupils play an active role in shaping the school’s mission and ethos. They lead and evaluate aspects of Catholic Life, plan and participate in celebration of the word and contribute to wider community engagement.

We expect all pupils to follow **The CTK Way**, reflecting our Motto: **“Believe and Achieve”**

Leadership, Monitoring and Review

The coordination and planning of Catholic Life is the responsibility of the Headteacher, RE subject leader and Chaplaincy Leads, who also support colleagues in their efforts towards developing the spiritual life of everyone within our community. The RE Subject Leader and Headteacher provide CPD opportunities for all staff where necessary and will lead Catholic Life staff meetings to ensure staff are aware of expectations within school and Diocesan initiatives.

The Headteacher and RE subject leader will feed back termly to the RE Governor and Chair of Governors regarding initiatives in school. There will also be opportunities to conduct learning walks and pupil interviews regarding the development of the Catholic Life of the school. There will also be more formal feedback given to the full Governing Body on a termly basis.

Name: Mrs **Role:**

Signature: **Date:**

Head Teacher: Mrs Annie Carter **Signature:** **Date:**

Chair of Governors: **Signature:** **Date:**

Date of next review: