

St Alban's Catholic Primary School



Education for Personal Relationships (EPR) POLICY

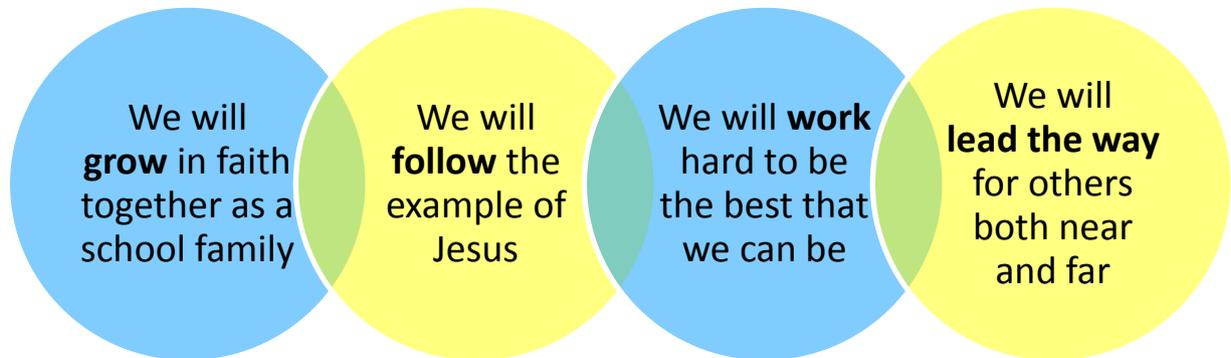
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1. INTRODUCTION

The St. Alban's Catholic Primary School's Mission Statement is as follows:



All children have a right to grow up in a safe, loving and happy environment. It is the intention of the school staff to take reasonable steps to ensure that the welfare of children is safeguarded and that their safety is preserved.

We at St. Alban's Catholic Primary have a primary responsibility for the care, welfare and safety of the pupils in our charge. We aim to provide a caring, supportive and safe environment, valuing individuals for their unique talents and abilities, with the aim that all young people can learn and develop to their full potential.

'I have come that you might have life and have it to the full' John 10:10

Education is about growth and development of the whole human person. It should aim to integrate a pupil's

- Intellectual
- Moral
- Spiritual
- Emotional
- Psychological
- and physical development

And so lead to full Christian maturity, human wholeness and flourishing.

Schools have a key role in **supporting parents in their primary responsibility** in enabling their children to grow in understanding of human relationships and to educate and inform them in all matters of personal growth and development.

We acknowledge that underpinning all personal, social, health, moral and citizenship education is the central belief in the dignity of each one of us, as created and loved by God, and the importance of relationships. Education for Personal Relationships (EPR) encompasses all these aspects of development.

We aim to provide an environment where pupils are informed about relationships **in the context of the Catholic faith.**

2. THE AIMS OF EPR

- To encourage pupils' growth in self-respect, acknowledging we are all created in the likeness of God.
- To help pupils develop an understanding that love is the central basis of relationships.
- To help pupils to understand the nature of relationships and to encourage them to reflect on their own relationships and respect differences between people.
- To develop pupils' confidence in talking, listening and thinking about feelings, emotions and relationships.
- To help pupils acquire the skills necessary to develop and sustain relationships.
- To offer education in the wider context of relationships.
- To ensure that pupils protect themselves and know how to ask for help and support when needed.
- To ensure that pupils are prepared for puberty.
- To help pupils develop healthy and safe lifestyles.
- To prepare pupils to play an active role as citizens and to understand the Catholic vision of what it means to be citizens of the Kingdom of God.

All St. Alban's staff recognise that they have an obligation in their various roles to contribute to EPR.

EPR requires sensitive teaching with pupil activities, discussions and support materials being well **matched** to the **age** and **level of understanding, needs** and **concerns of the pupils**.

The school's 'Sex and Relationship Education' (SRE) policy sets out guidelines for dealing with questions of a sensitive nature in relation to sex and relationship education and identifies the **specific content to be taught**.

The Diocesan framework and related mapping documents are used so that EPR is delivered through a **planned** curriculum to ensure progression and continuity.

EPR is delivered through:

- General ethos of the school as witnessed by the pupils and underpinned by school policies
- The Religious Education programme
- Discrete teaching time and/or specific 'blocked' time for certain aspects of the programme
- Making cross curricular links with other subjects

- The use of CAFOD, SEAL and other resource materials where appropriate and relevant
- Developing a learning climate which enables a response to opportunities that arise e.g. personal experiences, school, local, national and international events.
- Developing opportunities for charity support and involvement

3. RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors, and especially the Foundation Governors, are responsible for ensuring that the EPR programme follows Diocesan guidelines and is in keeping with the Church's teachings.

In all matters related to EPR and especially Sex and Relationship Education governors will ensure that parents are consulted on the contents of the programme and given an opportunity to view resources.

The EPR Coordinator is responsible for ensuring the effective delivery of the EPR programme, which is well planned and appropriately matched to age and levels of understanding and in keeping with the Catholic ethos of the school.