



MISSION STATEMENT

To equip our children with an academic and social education in a Roman Catholic environment which will enable them to achieve their full potential.

AIMS

In the light of the Mission Statement the School aims to:-

- * *Begin the process of educating the whole person, integrating each child's spiritual, intellectual, moral, social, cultural, aesthetic and physical development so that each one achieves his/her full potential and that fullness of life which God intended: in this endeavour, to encourage a real interaction between home and school.*
- * *Pass on knowledge and understanding of the Roman Catholic Faith, uphold the Church's teaching and values and make prayer, worship and liturgy a real experience and an integral part of school life.*
- * *Be a caring, courteous and disciplined community where relationships are formed and conducted according to Christ's Law of Love.*
- * *Encourage the school as a whole and as part of a wider community, by contributing to appropriate activities (such as charitable projects, social, sporting and cultural activities), so that every child becomes more aware of his/her Christian responsibilities to society.*

OBJECTIVES - (Academic & Social)

To achieve these aims the School seeks to:

1. a) Ensure that Christian values permeate the teaching of every subject and all relationships within the school.
- b) Create a happy, secure and stimulating environment in which each individual child can reach his maximum potential.
- c) Equip each child with the basic tools of learning - reading, writing and numeracy.
- d) Develop good work habits such as taking a pride in the presentation, accuracy and content of the work produced and taking a personal responsibility for having the proper equipment for the task and being in the right place at the right time.
- e) Build on each child's natural curiosity by encouraging a lively, enquiring mind and providing a challenging, balanced, relevant, differentiating and enriching curriculum.
- f) Prepare children for learning beyond their primary school years by equipping them with a range of skills such as the ability to reason and apply knowledge and concepts which they can put to use throughout their lives and which will particularly facilitate a confident transfer to secondary education.
- g) Encourage every child to enjoy school work and find satisfaction and a sense of achievement from it by developing a variety of teaching strategies, work experience and methods of evaluation across the curriculum.
- h) Enrich and broaden each child's experience and outlook by providing a wide range of physical, creative, aesthetic and spiritual opportunities so that they might discover and pursue their individual gifts and interests and in so doing maximise their chances of personal achievement and belief in themselves.
- i) Help children to grow into positive and responsible young people who are able and willing to co-operate with others and to foresee how their actions and decisions affect the well being of the whole community.
- j) Build a strong sense of trust, respect, co-operation and partnership between all who are concerned with the education and welfare of the children at St Pius X School, parents, teachers, governors and ancillary staff.
- k) Be open to new developments in education but to use discretion in their adoption.
- l) Establish curriculum policies which ensure progress and continuity in all subjects and to evaluate them in response to new challenges.

2. The School, its Catholic Ethos and Foundation

2.1 Religious Education and Worship

- a) Make a significant contribution to the child's self understanding as a spiritual being.
- b) Endeavour to promote a gradual opening of mind and heart in the search for truth in the great human questions.
- c) Accompany and guide the child on his/her personal journey of faith in a way that acknowledges his/her integrity and freedom.
- d) Ensure that religious growth and development is not just confined to the time-tabled religious lessons but is the fundamental purpose of the whole School experience.
- e) Offer daily occasions as an essential part of religious experience for communal and personal worship, a variety of prayerful activities and regular celebrations of liturgies suited to the ages of the children taking part.

2.2 The School as a Christian Community

- a) Support and reflect the religious education in the classroom. Children and their families should expect to experience a Christian, caring community which is evident in the commitment to Gospel values shown in the daily interactions between each member of the Pius community.
- b) Follow the example of Jesus in his concern and respect for people and to strive to make all children and their families admitted to the school equally welcome.
- c) Be mindful of the age of the children in the school and to seek to re-create as far as possible the warm and intimate atmosphere of caring family life.
- d) Offer time, support, guidance and sensitivity to the needs and situation of individual children, parents and all members of staff when needed.
- e) Encourage children to take a pride in themselves, their home and their school and to set a clear code of behaviour based on the teaching of Christ's Church which they are expected to learn, understand and adopt, and to challenge them to uphold Gospel values even when these are at variance with the social norms of our modern society.
- f) Build a team of staff who share a religious and educational philosophy and who are willing to work co-operatively for the benefit of all in the school community.

- g) Increase the effectiveness of all staff employed by encouraging and developing the skills of the individual through the provision of adequate and appropriate resources, training opportunities, good communication and the setting of realistic but challenging goals and expectations.

2.3 The School and the wider Community

- a) Educate each child to understand that their attitude and behaviour to each other and to the world around them should be governed by Christ's teachings and the teachings of his Church.
- b) Develop in each child an understanding that every human being is created by God in his own image and likeness and must be treated with respect and love. To this end and as an expression of a) above:-
 - i) To develop in children an awareness of the world around them, of the demands of citizenship and the needs of people in their immediate locality as well as further afield.
 - ii) To encourage the children to use their gifts and talents to make as full a contribution to the life of the school as possible in the hope that they grow up to think in terms of what they can offer to society rather than what society can offer them.
 - iii) To foster children's enthusiasm for projects which are for the benefit of others such as fund-raising activities for charity and responding to local, national and international appeals through positive action and prayer.