

## Our STA Mission

**"Loved by God, in our faith community, we live and learn together. We serve others, as Jesus served."**

**Live:** All children have a divine origin and an eternal destiny. Each child is unique and is made in the image of God, their Creator.

**Learn:** As co-creators, the education and formation of the whole person is at the centre of what we do. Parents are the primary educators of their children and our role is to support them wherever possible.

**Serve:** When we welcome the child we welcome the whole family, whatever form it takes. Jesus Christ is our role model for service and the summons to love everyone. Our school is based on the Gospel values of faithfulness and integrity, dignity and compassion, humility and gentleness, forgiveness and mercy, tolerance and peace, service and sacrifice.

We strive to make this a place where children and adults – staff, parents and visitors alike have an opportunity to experience the Kingdom – a community of love, rooted in faith and presenting a picture of Christ to catch the imagination.

### What we want

- Every child has access to high quality Catholic education: we aim to educate our pupils and guide them in becoming religiously literate young people who pass the gift of faith to future generations.
- Religious Education is an integral part of the curriculum at St Anthony's and permeates all aspects of school life. The Catholic faith is central to our daily life.
- Happy and enthusiastic learners of RE.
- Children who are inquisitive about the Catholic faith and want to learn more.
- High class, quality first teaching that promotes the child's innate capacity for wonder, awe, reverence and imagination.
- Children develop a deeper understanding of the Catholic faith, promote respect for religious and moral values, including those of non-Christian religions and those who do not have any faith.
- St Anthony's is totally committed to recognising and valuing every individual as special and unique, made in the image of God.
- Experience a curriculum which is engaging and comprehensive and secures a sound understanding of the Catholic faith allowing them to develop a living and personal faith with Jesus Christ – to know and love God.
- To stay rooted in our STA Mission: **LIVE, LEARN, SERVE.**

### How we do it

- The RE curriculum is high profile as a core subject and is given at least 10% in the school timetable.
- Across the school we follow the 'Come and See' curriculum, as recommended by the Diocese. Carefully sequenced and following the calendar of the Church's year, this RE programme is the starting point for our teaching in this subject however, we know that to meet the specific needs of our children, we must go beyond this and use exciting activities that challenge children according to their age-related expectations.
- We ensure a balance between learning about RE (AT1) and learning from RE (AT2) and use floor books to record children's own ideas and reflections on matter around the Catholic faith.
- Big questions are considered in the light of the Scriptures and Traditions of the Church, as expressed in the documents of the Second Vatican Council and the Catechism of the Catholic Church.
- Different classes learn about similar topics at the same time but at different levels of depth. Driver words are used across the school to support children in their achievement of age-related expectations.
- We believe engagement is crucial in RE and therefore place a strong importance on a creative approach in RE teaching and learning. This enables our children to flourish and deepen their appreciation and understanding of their faith.
- We enhance learning through practical, firsthand experiences such as visiting our parish church. We work closely with our parish priest, our chaplain, Mr Coyle and the other schools in our Trust.
- Staff receive regular CPD in the teaching of RE as well as collective worship.
- Children experience collective worship daily, whether in individual classrooms or when we gather together as a school family. Children pray formally throughout the day: in the mornings, before lunch and at the end of the day.
- Children pray in different ways at our school, including formal prayers, scripture doodling, private prayer time and joyful celebrations together.

### What difference it makes

- Religious Education, Catholic life and collective worship are high priority and high profile across the school.
- Children of all abilities and backgrounds achieve well in RE, reflected through good progress. Children talk enthusiastically about their learning in RE.
- Children are well prepared for the next stage of their education as confident and enthusiastic learners.
- Our children recognise, describe, and discuss areas of RE. They will confidently use skills such as retelling, describing, making links, giving reason, explaining the meaning of biblical stories, and considering the impact of beliefs, using driver words and sentence stems to support their writing.
- Pupils talk with passion about their RE learning, showing they enjoy and are inspired by their RE lessons.
- Pupil work progresses across a year and across their time with us at St Anthony's
- Children sing joyfully and worship respectfully at different times, according to the situation, including appropriate lengths of silence.
- By working with the Trust etc. the children are aware that the Church is much bigger than just our school and that other people in our city believe that their faith is important too.