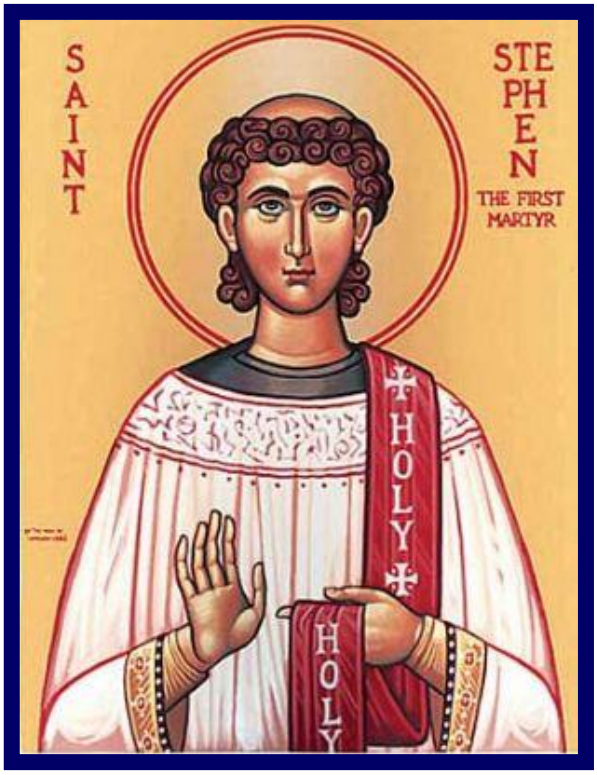
ST. STEPHEN'S CATHOLIC

PRIMARY SCHOOL



Moral Development Policy 2026/27

'Love like Jesus. Learn like Jesus. Live like Jesus.'

Rationale:

At St Stephen's Catholic Primary School, we recognise that moral development is an intrinsic part of every child's education. The promotion of a child's moral development provides the framework for children to build their own understanding of the world and to make suitable decisions. In our school, we view moral education as a process of decision making based on conscience, self-awareness and freedom to take on responsibility. Our understanding of morality is rooted in the willingness of an individual to see his or her own good in relation to that of others and through generous self giving, to the true fullness of life.

"The Lord Jesus came to live among us in order to show us the Father's love. His ultimate sacrifice testifies to his love for his friends. And the Lord's new commandment is at the centre of our faith: ***'This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you'.***

We, therefore, acknowledge that our approach to moral development will be a process that allows the child to gain a sense of the greater good and what is right and wrong. We endeavour to promote an awareness of conscience that is how our inner responses can form the foundation of moral decision making. It is also paramount that children in our care are made aware of the scope and the complexity of morality; the need to be well informed, to think rationally and impartially across the curriculum about moral issues and experience the use of values in the process of making moral decisions.

Purpose

To ensure that pupils understand the difference between right and wrong and the importance of striving to do right. This understanding will:

1. Inform pupils' thinking and actions and help them exercise their will in resisting temptation;
2. Prompt the constant attempt to become a better person;
3. Improve the willingness to make an effort to understand others;
4. Build pupils' respect for themselves, others, their society and their environment;
5. Enable pupils to engage in effective moral reasoning;
6. Help pupils see that weakness, failure and fault belong to the human condition, but we should try to overcome them.

Practice:

Developing a child's morality is the responsibility of the whole school community. In St Stephen's Catholic Primary School, we address morality explicitly through:

- ✓ The teaching of Religious Education through 'To Know You More Clearly'
- ✓ The implementation and delivery of Journey in Love
- ✓ The sharing and teaching of our Mission
- ✓ Gospel Value of the Week
- ✓ Golden Rules
- ✓ Sacramental Preparation
- ✓ Prayer and Liturgy
- ✓ Opportunities for spiritual development
- ✓ PSHE
- ✓ Reward assemblies, conscious praise and stickers
- ✓ Rainbow champions
- ✓ Questioning and exploring the meaning of existence
- ✓ Cross-curricular activities including drama and role play
- ✓ The teaching of other faiths
- ✓ After school and extra-curricular activities
- ✓ School Council
- ✓ British Values

Moral development is promoted implicitly through the fostering of our Gospel Values which include:-

- ❖ Forgiveness
- ❖ Compassion
- ❖ Faithfulness
- ❖ Justice
- ❖ Honesty
- ❖ Love
- ❖ Gentleness

At St Stephen's Catholic Primary School, we reject and reflect upon negative attitudes which include:-

- ❖ Bullying
- ❖ Dishonesty
- ❖ Deceit
- ❖ Cruelty
- ❖ Irresponsibility
- ❖ Intolerance

Reviewed: **Autumn Term 2026**
Next Review: **Autumn Term 2027**