



BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL POLICY

All that happens in Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School occurs within the context of the school's Mission Statement (in accordance with the Trust Deed for the maintenance and advancement of the Catholic religion).

Written:	May 2010	
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Persons Responsible:	SLT and Headteacher	
Committee:	Full Governing Body	
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As a Catholic school, founded on, and committed to upholding the teaching of the Church, we believe that Jesus is present in the day to day life of our community and that each member of our community has a divine origin and an eternal destiny. In discharging our responsibilities, we are guided by the principles of Catholic social teaching [CST], in which the following core values are constituted: dignity, solidarity, the common good, the option for the poor, the promotion of peace, care for creation, the dignity of work and the value of participation in society. These principles are demonstrated in our core, and wider, curriculum, in our care of students, in our work with the disadvantaged and in the outward-facing approach to our local community, our nation and to the world. As our moral compass, CST guides us in all our school activities, including the formulation, upholding and reviewing of school policies.

As a Catholic school, we regard the following characteristics as central to the human flourishing of everyone – students, staff and Governors – in our community. Our aspirations for our students are that their experience of teaching develops in them a lived belief, an authentic sense of true happiness, a lived sense of family, an experience of care and a vocation for service.

To achieve these aspirations, teaching and learning will privilege the following core virtues for every member of our community.

Grateful for their own gifts, for the gift of other people, and for the blessings of each day; and generous with their gifts, becoming men and women for others.

Attentive to their experience and to their vocation; and discerning about the choices they make and the effects of those choices.

Compassionate towards others, near and far, especially the less fortunate; and loving by their just actions and forgiving words.

Faith-filled in their beliefs and hopeful for the future.

Eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world.

Learned, finding God in all things; and wise in the ways they use their learning for the common good.

Curious about everything; and active in their engagement with the world, changing what they can for the better.

Intentional in the way they live and use the resources of the earth, guided by conscience; and prophetic in the example they set to others.

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Policies at Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic school are designed to support the ethos, aims and vision of the school.

1.2 The governors and staff recognise that:

1.2.1 global issues are an important part of the lives of our students living in a world where economies are increasingly interdependent and global communication is a daily reality. Our students have access to the internet and increased opportunity to travel, watch news stories from around the world, as they develop and follow for example, international sporting events as they happen. As a Catholic school we recognise our interconnectedness and the dignity of each person.

1.2.2 the global dimension should be reflected in the attitudes and values of our students, the ethos of the school, and the Programmes of Study.

1.2.3 as a school we have a commitment equality across the Protected Characteristics.

2. AIMS

2.1 To enable our students to know more about global issues and to:

2.1.1 celebrate the rich and diverse heritage represented in our school, and local and national communities.

2.1.2 understand complex international interdependencies in the global economy

2.1.3 respect and value different cultures and beliefs

2.1.4 enjoy regular contact with students and adults living in different countries

3. OBJECTIVES

3.1 To work towards achieving and maintaining the International School Award.

3.2 To conduct annual audits of both our formal and informal curriculum which, in turn inform action plans to develop each of the eight Key Concepts of the global dimension through all appropriate areas of the curriculum such that there is a clearly mapped global dimension in the learning experiences for all our students. These eight key concepts we recognise as:

3.2.1 global citizenship

3.2.2 interdependence

3.2.3 social justice

3.2.4 sustainable development

3.2.5 values and perceptions

3.3 Develop and fully exploit a variety of global learning partnerships. This will include activities such as:

3.3.1 email and internet projects including video conferencing

3.3.2 interacting with visitors from other countries [students & adults]

3.3.3 student/staff visits to places of cultural interest in the UK and abroad

3.3.4 actively encourage the study of foreign languages for most of our students by offering a range of appropriate language options

3.3.5 organising regular celebrations of our rich and diverse heritage

4. RATIONALE

4.1 Through the inclusion of an international focus we are able to offer to our children, a range of experiences that will enhance their learning and raise awareness of their national and international identity.

5. PURPOSE

5.1 To provide an informed awareness of countries, cultures and languages other than our own

5.2 To encourage greater involvement in environmental issues

5.3 To develop curiosity about other cultures

5.4 To enable children, staff and governors to experience daily life in other countries

5.5 To promote the use of ICT in meaningful contexts for the development of communication skills

5.6 To provide an added opportunity for the promotion of equal opportunities, racial equality and Citizenship.

6. GUIDELINES

6.1 By having an international dimension as part of our ethos, we can provide children and staff with a wider variety of experiences both within, and in addition to the National Curriculum:

6.1.1 develop links with schools in other countries in Europe and further afield

6.1.2 welcome schoolteachers and pupils from other countries

6.1.3 raise awareness of environment issues other than those in our locality through joint projects

6.1.4 encourage interest and motivation through the provision of first-hand experiences of life in another country

6.1.5 promote communication through writing letters and emails to friends abroad

6.1.6 provide staff with opportunities to compare different teaching and learning styles

6.1.7 raise awareness and appreciation of other environments and what is happening in the world

6.1.8 develop cross-curricular activities with an international theme for all children.

7. EVALUATION

7.1 This policy will be reviewed under our Governors' Policy Review cycle. A statement of evaluation will also appear in our annual School Improvement Plan.