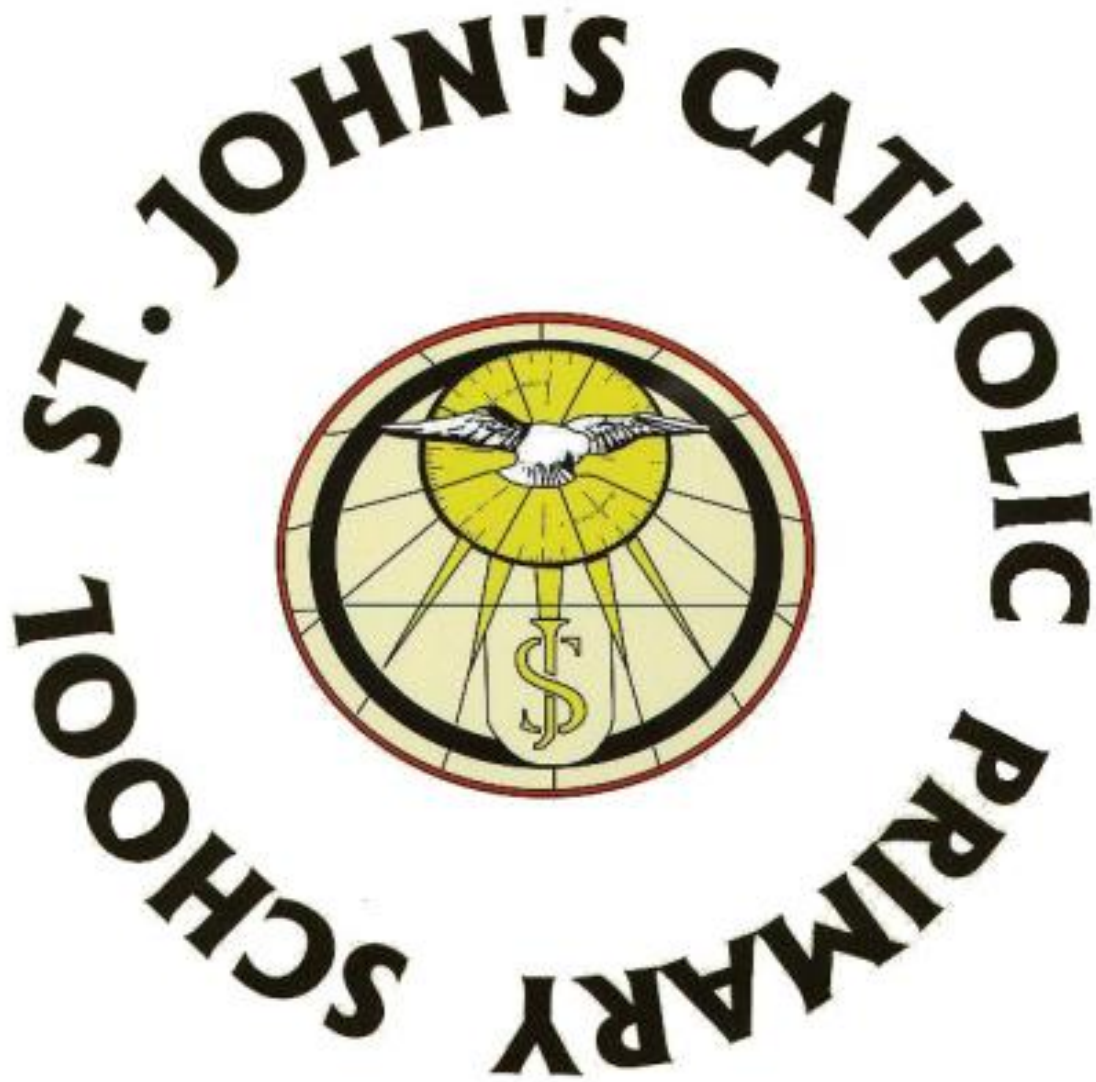




Anti-Bullying Policy

February 2025

Our Mission Statement

The Mission of St. John's Catholic Primary School is to grow and learn in the footsteps of Jesus by being: responsible, caring, prayerful, creative, independent, thoughtful, curious and respectful. We live our Mission by:

- Ensuring that our attitudes and values are transmitted through a curriculum that is consistent with the Catholic faith
- Delivering a curriculum that is relevant, varied, interesting, stimulating, balanced and appropriate
- Developing policies and schemes of work which recognise that R.E. is an integral part of the curriculum
- Developing sound teaching and effective classroom management
- Generating a positive attitude to learning where realistic expectations of pupils and high standards of work are expected
- Using a variety of teaching approaches that reflect the needs of individual pupils
- Participating in projects which focus on the needs of others including local and international charities.
- St. John's is a Catholic voluntary aided primary school, established by the Church to serve the parishes of St. John the Baptist, Trowbridge, St. Bernadette's, Westbury and St. Thomas More, Bradford on Avon.

'The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect them'.

Article 3 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Read this policy in conjunction with the School Mission Statement, Catholic Social Teaching 'The Dignity of the Human Person', Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Policy, Equality Information Statement and E-Safety Policy

The policy has the following objective:

To ensure that all members of the school community: governors, teaching and support staff, pupils and parents, should have an understanding of what bullying is, understand the school policy and what to do if bullying arises.

Ensure the proactivity in the area of personal and social education and to encourage positive relations in all areas of school life.

Purpose

It is the basic entitlement of all our pupils that they receive their education free from oppression, humiliation and abuse. All members of the school community, including staff and parents should be free from oppression, humiliation and abuse. It is the responsibility of everyone in the school community to ensure that all learning takes place in an environment which is caring, supportive and protective. We encourage and ensure positive relations in all areas of school life.

What is bullying?

Bullying is,

'The repetitive, intentional hurting of one person or group by another person or group, where the relationship involves an imbalance of power. It can happen face to face or online.' Anti-bullying Alliance

The main types of bullying are:

Physical

Pushing, kicking, hitting or any other form of violence.

Verbal

Name calling, taunting, threats, offensive remarks, sarcasm, spreading rumours, teasing.

Religious

Negative or unfriendly interactions focussing on religious difference or how somebody expresses their faith.

Sexual

Unwanted physical contact or sexually abusive comments.

Cultural

Mocking, humiliating or tormenting a pupil because of their nationality or background (e.g. their accent, manners or appearance).

Homophobic

Because of, or focussing on, the issue of sexuality.

Transphobic

Intentionally making someone unhappy because they may not be perceived to conform what are considered to be usual gender roles.

Cyber

All areas of the internet, e.g. email/chatroom misuse: mobile phone threats by text message and/or calls: misuse of associated technology e.g. camera and video: offensive or prejudiced comments/posts on social media.

Preventing Bullying and Responses to Bullying

Apply Restorative practice consistently as part of the whole school strategy.

Encourage peer mentoring (Anti-Bullying Ambassadors)

Raise awareness and understanding of what constitutes bullying.

Give pupils time to talk about bullying (e.g. during planned lessons taught in all classes, which deal specifically with bullying and related issues); Anti-Bullying Week; Anti-Bullying assemblies; events run by the Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.

Give pupils a range of opportunities to report incidents of bullying including: a worry box in each KS2 classroom: Anti-Bullying Ambassadors in every class.

Adults supervise key areas of the school, during break and lunchtime.

Effectively counsel and listen to all parties involved including bystanders and/or witnesses.

Develop the self-esteem of all pupils.

Hold 'Anti-Bullying Ambassador' meetings to provide feedback and develop engagement with all classes

Provide 'Child-friendly Anti-bullying Policy' for every pupil.

E-safety: All children are reminded about how to use all aspects of IT on a daily basis; however key messages are also shared with children on Safer Internet Day every February and during Anti Bullying Week in November.

Equality: All children are encouraged to celebrate diversity.

Staff training: All staff and governors receive Safeguarding training every three years, and an annual safeguarding update. This enables them to support any child who may reveal any issues during the investigation of any bullying incidents.

Procedures followed in the Event of a Bullying Incident

St. John's Catholic Primary School is a 'Telling' School

Pupils can either report bullying incidents through:

- Any member of staff
- Pupils are encouraged to tell anybody they trust if they are being bullied or if they feel someone else is being bullied, and if the bullying continues, they must keep on letting people know.

The head teacher will contact the parents of the children concerned.

Parents will be asked to monitor any changes in their child's/children's behaviour that occur at home; they will need to keep the school informed.

A record of any bullying incident will be kept.

For incidents where a reconciliation is quickly achieved, parents will be made aware of this.

In the event of repeated incidents, parents will be invited to a meeting at the school where appropriate procedures (including exclusion) will be considered.

Parents, the chair of governors, and the Local Education Authority will be informed in writing if exclusion procedures are used.

Parents can report any concerns about bullying.

Parents who are concerned that their child might be being bullied, or who suspect that their child may be the perpetrator of bullying, should personally contact their child's class teacher immediately or contact the Head teacher via the school e-mail admin@st-johns-trowbridge.wilts.sch.uk

The Head Teacher monitors incident records to spot trends or patterns of behaviour and to take action to challenge prejudice. These (not individual cases) are report to the Governing Body via the FGB Head teacher reports.

This policy has been approved and adopted by the Governing Body on: 10th March 2025

Headteacher

Signed



Chair of Governors

Signed



Review Cycle:	Bi-Annually
Next review Due:	Feb 27