



# St Joseph's

Roman Catholic High School  
& Sports College

## Charities Policy

*Our school is a community where Jesus Christ is our role model and his message the guiding principle behind all we do.*

*Every member of our community is responsible for creating an environment that is caring, fair and respectful of each individual.*

*We develop our potential, celebrate our talents and go forward together in faith.*

Approved by Governors: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2015

Date for Review: March 2018

Signed Chair of Governors: W. Charnley

Signed Headteacher: R.Woods

Governors Committee: Mission & Ethos

## Gospel Values

The term 'Gospel values' is commonly used in Catholic schools and other Catholic institutions; however, unless the term is unpacked and a common understanding formed of what true Gospel values are, there is a danger that what should be an objective Christian foundation, will itself become a random list of subjective values.

Whilst other 'values' may be found within the four Gospels and New Testament writings, it is the Beatitudes which: "...depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray his charity". Gospel values cannot therefore be values chosen subjectively from the vast corpus of the Old and New Testaments but are objective values revealed to us through Christ's proclamation. Such objective values are to be found rooted in the Beatitudes, the proclamation of Christ's Sermon on the Mount. The Beatitudes also "...reveal the goal of human existence, the ultimate end of human acts" and as such are the objective 'values' given by Christ himself.

Whilst not definitive, those Gospel values based on the Beatitudes which underpin this policy include:

*"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven"*

Values: **Faithfulness & Integrity**

*"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted"*

Values: **Dignity & Compassion**

*"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied"*

Values: **Truth & Justice**

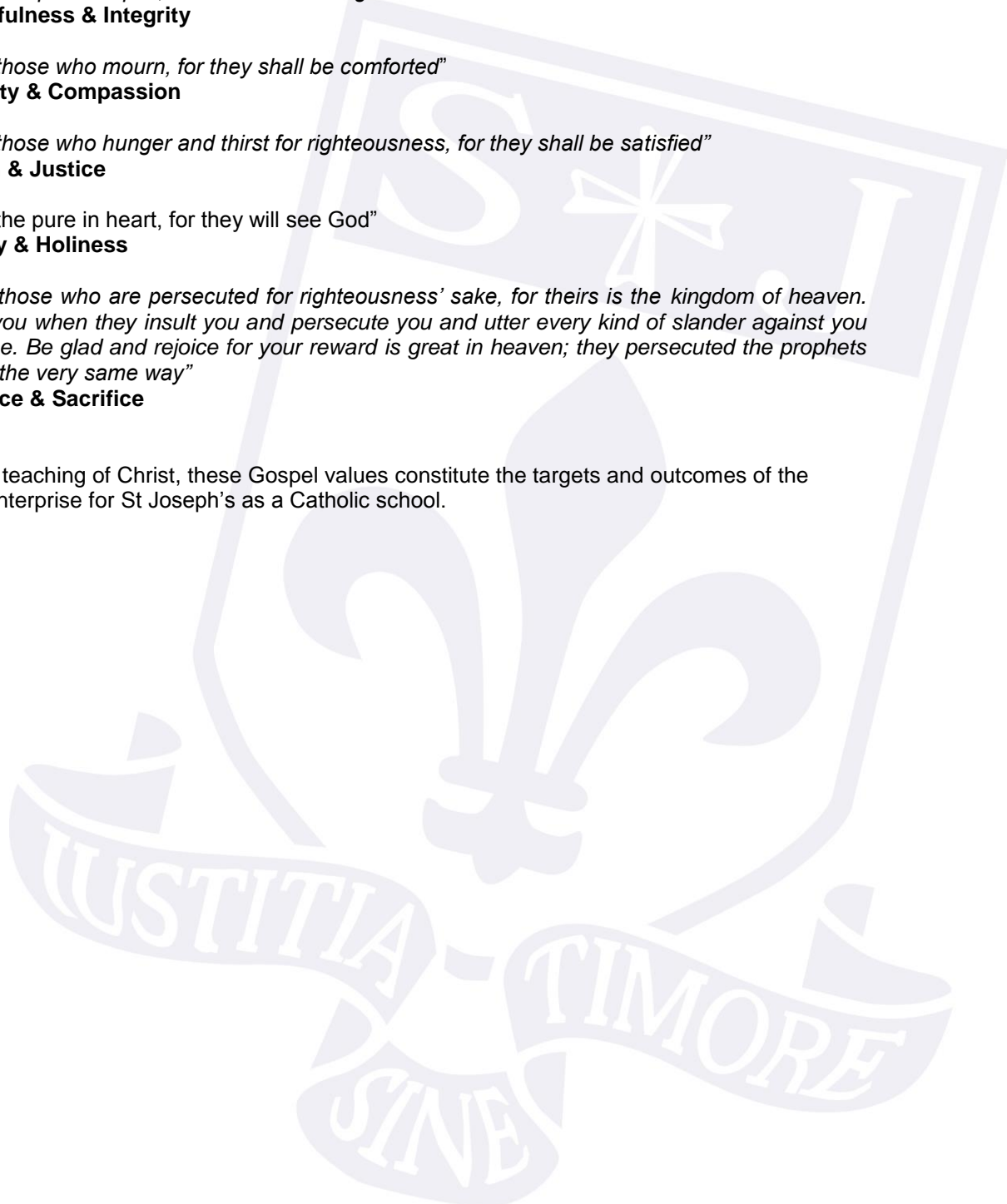
*"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God"*

Values: **Purity & Holiness**

*"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of slander against you because of me. Be glad and rejoice for your reward is great in heaven; they persecuted the prophets before you in the very same way"*

Values: **Service & Sacrifice**

Rooted in the teaching of Christ, these Gospel values constitute the targets and outcomes of the educational enterprise for St Joseph's as a Catholic school.



## **Introduction**

This policy is designed to support the school's Mission Statement by encouraging pupils to develop independence, service to others and the love of neighbour as explained through the Parable of the Sheep and Goats (Mt 25:31-46). It supports the aims of the school in assisting students to develop an understanding of the world outside school, to develop their talents and to develop respect for others.

## **Statement of Intent**

All students at St Joseph's will be active in supporting charitable causes and understand why this is central to our mission and purpose as a Catholic Community. An appreciation of the ways in which charities help the less fortunate forms an important part of our curriculum. Significant contributions to fostering this are made in the areas of Religious Education, Citizenship, PSHEE and through daily acts of collective worship in Form groups and assemblies.

## **General Principles**

We will support a number of local, national, and international charities thereby reinforcing one of our core Gospel Values of **service to others**.

Fundraising activities should be fun and imaginative where possible. Permission for cake sales / confectionary should be sought from the Headteacher and will be permitted in accordance with recent DfE guidance 'School Food in England' (June 2014).

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

All activities should be agreed by the Headteacher.

All activities must be supervised by a member of staff.

The member of staff in charge of the fundraising event (Trip organiser, MOL, Form Tutor) must ensure that all monies are given to the Finance Officer at the end of the event who will ensure that a payment will be sent to the relevant charity as soon as possible after the fundraising event/activity, of an amount at least as much as was raised by that event/activity

## **Whole School Initiatives**

St Joseph's will continue to support the following charities throughout the year in line with the school Charity Calendar:

**Local:** Revive, St Joseph's Penny

**National:** HCPT, Fairtrade

**International:** Cafod

### **Non-uniform days**

There will normally be three non-uniform days per year - one in the Autumn Term prior to the PSA Christmas Fair; one in the Spring Term and one in the Summer Term.

### **Parents' Staff Association**

St Joseph's Parents' Staff Association (PSA) is a registered charity which exists to raise funds to buy resources that enrich the education of the children at St Joseph's and to provide a forum for parental participation in the school community. The school works to actively support the work of the PSA.

### **Other Activities**

Other charitable events will be supported and promoted throughout the year as requested. They will be accommodated if there is no direct competition with existing charities already agreed and calendared.

### **Publicity**

Charity activities are an important aspect of the school and should be publicised to:

- pupils and staff
- parents and governors
- the general public.

### **Publicity within school**

- Advance notice of charity events is published by pupils and staff, in the school briefing notes, on the lunchtime powerpoint presentation and on posters around school.
- Information about the amounts raised is published by staff in the school notices and posted on the Charities Notice Board near the canteen by Pupil Chaplains (Mrs Stevenson)
- An Annual Charities Report (prepared by the Pupil Chaplains) will be made available for staff, pupils and governors.

### **Publicity to the general public**

- Information should always be given to Anna Bottomley to promote via the school website and other media.