



INDUCTION CATHOLIC LIFE



ST JOSEPH'S
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL
LIVING • LOVING • LEARNING

The Purpose of Catholic Education

1. Help parents as first educators.
2. To support the Bishops in the mission of the Church to make Christ known to all people.
3. To support our parishes in the moral and spiritual formation of the children of the parish.
4. To work towards the common good.

“Catholic education is also evangelization: bearing witness to the joy of the Gospel and its power to renew our communities and provide hope and strength in facing wisely the challenges of the present time,”

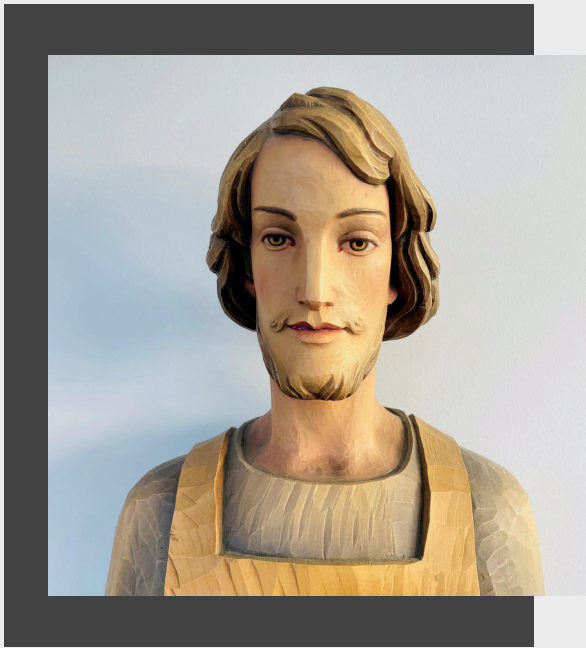
Pope Francis



“As educators, you are called to nurture the desire for truth, goodness and beauty that lies in the heart of each individual, so that all may learn how to love life and be open to the fullness of life,”

Pope Francis

St. Joseph's Workington



As a Catholic school we are a community believes that everyone is filled with the love of God. Young people are not first and foremost 'learners' or 'citizens and certainly not economic units. They have a divine origin and an eternal destiny. What you will see in our school is this belief in practice – in all policies and in all our relationships. Our school is a place of joy and celebration. In Catholic terms, we are loved, we are saved, and life is graced and good! Our challenge is to embrace this gift.

We are unapologetic about our mission to make 'Christ known to all people' and our drive for excellence. We believe that all in our school and community should live a life of abundance and be formed in the virtues found in scripture and the teachings of the Catholic Church. To this end we use the Jesuit Pupil Profile as the basis of our pedagogy.

What is different about a Catholic School?

Catholic schools do all the things other schools do, for example we teach the National Curriculum. However, we have a clear purpose that is rooted in scripture and the teachings of the Church. We are not just a place of learning; we are a place where everyone is educated in the virtues and values of the heart and the mind. We are an inclusive community that welcomes and shows compassion to all!

Among all educational instruments the school has a special importance. It is designed not only to develop with special care the intellectual faculties but also to form the ability to judge rightly, to hand on the cultural legacy of previous generations, to foster a sense of values, to prepare for professional life. Between pupils of different talents and backgrounds it promotes friendly relations and fosters a spirit of mutual understanding; and it establishes as it were a centre whose work and progress must be shared together by families, teachers, associations of various types that foster cultural, civic, and religious life, as well as by civil society and the entire human community.'

DECLARATION ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - GRAVISSIMUM EDUCATIONIS

How is working in a Catholic school different?

Many of the day-to-day activities will not be different from other schools you have worked in. A key difference is that you regardless of your own faith are invited to and encouraged to contribute to the whole school ethos. This has nothing to do with converting to Catholicism or forcing you to believe anything. It means that the MAT, Local Governing Body and the Headteacher expect you to do what you can to contribute to all aspects of the school's life including the faith life of the school. An easy way to do this is to reflect upon the way that you speak to others and how others speak to you! Remember you are part of something that is bigger than the school. What you are doing is valued and supported from the very top of the Church. You are on a journey with your own faith and at the heart of Catholic education is Jesus Christ.

Catholic Social Teaching

We live in a broken world, a world of suffering and pain. We suffer from a poverty of spirit and aspiration. A world that is utilitarian in its philosophy and ethics. The Church has a radical message that stems from the Greatest Commandment:

“Of all the commandments, which is the most important?”

“The most important one,” answered Jesus, “is this: ‘Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘Love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no commandment greater than these.”
Mark 12: 28-31

The issues covered in the Church's social teachings can be categorised into the following themes: human dignity, the preferential option for the poor, the dignity of work, solidarity, Catholic teaching on poverty: a place at the table, faithful citizenship: a call to political responsibility, social justice, human and economic development and social sin.

St Joseph our Patron

Joseph understood the importance of hard work. He was a carpenter—a builder—and probably taught Jesus his trade. Through his work, Joseph honoured the Father in heaven and continued the act of creation. He lived in dignity. What we know about the life of Saint Joseph is contained in the gospels of Saint Matthew and Saint Luke. He has become known as the “Just man”.

The name foster-father of Our Lord appears in local metrologies of the ninth and tenth centuries. The first church dedicated in his honour was in 1129 in Bologna. Pope Sixtus IV (1471-84) added the feast of Saint Joseph to the Roman Calendar. Pope Pius IX placed the whole Church under the Patronage of Saint Joseph in 1870.

In 1989, Pope John Paul II reflected deeply on the life and witness of Saint Joseph in *Redemptoris Custos* “Guardian of the Redeemer” (q.v).

As the Bible tells us, Saint Joseph was descended from the royal house of David. A village carpenter of Nazareth, he was chosen among all men to be the husband and protector of the Virgin Mother of Jesus Christ. To his loving care was entrusted the childhood and youth of the Redeemer of the world. He reveals to us the perfect model of Christianity through his purity of heart, patience, and fortitude.

Poor in worldly possessions, he was rich in grace. Devotion to Saint Joseph, was fervent in the East from the early ages, and has spread and increased. Today, Catholics of all nations honour him.

There are many stories about the miraculous intervention of Saint Joseph. One is a medieval account of how famine in Sicily was ended after a Novena to Saint Joseph. A more recent story is of the mysterious “itinerant carpenter” who volunteered to build an architecturally unique spiral staircase in a convent chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, which is as sound today as when it was first built, and has never needed repair.

According to ancient tradition, Saint Joseph watches over and protects the Church. He is considered the model of perfect Christian life and the patron of a happy death. His patronage extends over the Mystical Body of Christ, over the Christian family and schools, carpenters, fathers, labourers, and all individuals who appeal to his charity.

His feast day is celebrated on March 19th. This is a special day in school.

Each form also has a patron or patroness attached to them.