

St Bede's

Catholic School
& Sixth Form College

Mission, Aims & Values

a community of faith hope and love



Bishop Wilkinson
Catholic Education Trust



SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of St. Bede's Catholic School and Sixth Form College is to create an atmosphere of Catholic values, attitudes, practice and knowledge such that all children will have the opportunity for their faith to be nurtured. Thus they will be able to widen and deepen themselves as people in preparation for this life and for the life to come.

St Bede's Aims and Values

St Bede's aims to be a community inspired by **CHRIST** to serve others.

Common Good

To promote a spirit of **charity**, social **justice**, global **stewardship** and concern for others leading to a contribution to the common good.

Hope

To be an educational community built on foundations of **faith**, **hope** and **love**, which reflects Christ's message of **compassion**, **solidarity** and **forgiveness**.

Respect

To build a community of mutual **respect** working towards a common understanding of high standards of behaviour, good **manners** and individual accountability, as well as encouraging students to make **responsible** and positive **choices**.

Inspiration

To be a caring, supportive and inclusive community inspired by **Christ**, recognised by our love of God and of our **neighbour** whilst nurturing qualities of **resilience**, **determination**, **ambition**, **courage** and commitment, in order to live fulfilling and purposeful lives.

Service

To follow Christ's example of **servicing** others, in a climate of **kindness**, **humility**, **friendship** and **cooperation**.

Talents

To encourage all members of the community to foster a love of life-long learning so that they can use their **talents** to the full, pursuing **excellence** in all things and in doing so, bring Christ to each other.

Christ
Talents
Accountability
Courage
Kindness
Respect
Forgiveness

Inclusive
Faith
Ambition
Excellence
Friendship
Choices
Inspire



Compassion
Humility
Responsibility
Service
Solidarity
Love
Resilience

Justice
Charity
Neighbour
Hope
Stewardship
Cooperation
Manners

Catholic Life and Mission

Here at St Bede's, we have a mission to make Christ known to our pupils and through them to the world. This is accomplished in 3 principal ways: in the content of faith learned in Religious Education lessons; through the life of faith experience in the routines of shared prayer and worship; by the example of those acts of faith which make the Gospel a living reality in our school community.



As a Catholic community, St. Bede's offers many opportunities to participate in a vibrant and dynamic spiritual life. The Gospel Values of Jesus Christ are not only taught, but experienced through the work we do and the quality of relationships with others. We are a community inspired by Christ and through His example, we strive to create an environment where all feel loved, can recognise their unique worth and are able to grow fully into the best versions of themselves. Our school is a place, where all are valued equally and belong, where all are encouraged to use their talents to the full and pursue excellence in all things. We want pupils and staff to feel comfortable to explore their relationship with God, whilst celebrating diversity and difference and showing respect to all, whatever their background and beliefs. We encourage aspiration and individuality amongst young people, and guide them in taking their Catholic attitudes, skills and knowledge into the world, their careers and their home lives. They, then, can become a powerhouse of change for the better, in turn serving those around them and in the wider world, in fulfilment of Gospel values.

Our school is a place where pupils and staff can encounter the love that God has for each of them. With Christ at the centre, we seek to exemplify faith in action: through acts of service and charitable outreach, we work for justice and compassion and care for the most vulnerable, at a local, national and global level. We foster an ethos of kindness: to others, to the world and to ourselves. Our community is built upon values, which are inspired by the Gospel and we strive to live our these values every day, in our relationships, our interactions and our work in school and beyond. We are dedicated to fostering a strong sense of faith and belief, guiding our young people to reach their full potential and celebrate life to the full.

Chaplaincy

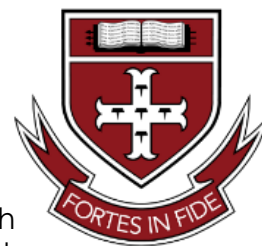
The Chaplaincy at St Bede's is a key part of fulfilling the school's mission and is at the heart of the Catholic life of St Bede's. Pupils and staff are generous with their time and talents and through their service, enhance the faith of our community.

Our School Chaplain is here to support staff, pupils, and their families to engage with the Catholic Life and Mission of the school and the wider community. The Chaplain works closely with the Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, Year Leaders, Form Tutors, Student Support Team, Partnership Parishes and families to provide a support network adaptable to the needs of every individual. The Chaplain is a visible presence in the school community and is available to all its members, accepting people for who they are and making it safe for them to discern their life situation, their potential and their view of the future.

The Chaplaincy Team works to manage and co-ordinate charity fundraising awareness, events and service opportunities and engage and stimulate pupils' development of their gifts and talents in both their local and global communities as they accept the invitation to live out their faith in words and actions.

Prayer and Worship

Students are encouraged and challenged over their time at St Bede's to engage with their faith through acts of individual and collective worship. These take place three times every day: morning prayer in tutor groups during form time and year group liturgical prayer; in the middle of the day during Period 4 in tutor groups; and at the end of each school day. Our collective worship follows the diocesan format of gather, listen, respond and mission.



In addition to these daily acts of worship, there are many opportunities for prayer, Holy Mass, class liturgies and retreats throughout the year. There is always a focus on the great liturgical seasons of the Church's year, including Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.

Faith and Formation

At St Bede's, there are many opportunities for pupils to explore their faith while also serving others through their witness of peer leadership in prayer, inspiring stewardship, matters of social justice and promoting service in the school and wider community.

With our school values at the fore, pupils are given the opportunity to develop into the people God intended them to be, helping them to grow in their relationship with Christ so that they can respond to God's calling which is unique to them. The school's motto, fortes in fide (Strong In Faith) encourages all members of the school community to grow spiritually and through this growth, work for the greater glory of God and the common good. This 'work' could include involvement in our Chaplaincy co-curricular programme which further enhances their personal formation.

Opportunities include:

- Youth SVP
- CAFOD Young Leaders
- Faith In Action
- Justice and Peace
- Sixth Form Chaplaincy
- Whole school charitable focus during Advent and Lent
- Year group fundraising
- Spirited Arts

Pupils who are candidates for Confirmation are supported through our strong partnership with clergy, parish and school-based catechists, who are members of the RE department. Our Sixth Form students take part in the Pope John Paul II Award, engaging in their parishes and with social justice issues. We also carry out acts of service in the local community, such as voluntary work and Christmas hampers for the elderly, as well as charitable outreach at a local, national and global level.

Retreat and Pilgrimage

To support the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our young people, we offer opportunities for retreat and pilgrimage: a time to reflect, recharge and revitalise. Pupils at St Bede's can take part in pilgrimage to Lourdes, Rome and Holy Island. Sixth Form pupils also have a retreat in school as part of their induction programme.

St Bede's Prayer

Lord, I place myself and my day into your hands.
Help me to remember, in each moment of today, that I belong to a community that shows **compassion**, seeks **justice** and offers **hope**.

I believe that my **choices** are my **responsibility**
and I must be **accountable** for my thoughts, words and actions.

I belong to a community that offers **love, kindness** and **friendship** to all people.
I believe that every person is my **neighbour** and I will stand in **solidarity**
with people of all religions and no religion.

I belong to a community that celebrates me and the gifts and **talents** I have been given.
I believe that by using my gifts and talents, I can strive for **excellence** in all that I do
and **inspire** others along the way.

I belong to a community that is **inclusive** and has **Christ** at the heart of all that we do
and say. I believe that it is my mission to make Christ known to others.

I belong to a community of **faith, hope** and **love**.

I belong to St. Bede's.

Amen



Theme Prayer: Kindness

Loving God,

You have created us in your own image,
calling us to be a reflection of your love, forgiveness and **kindness**.

We pray that St. Bede's will always be a place where your love and **kindness**
are reflected; a place of hope, that extends the hand of friendship to all.

Help us to live in harmony and peace with one another
and to recognise your face in every individual.

We give thanks for all who offer us an encouraging word
and we pray that we too can bring positivity to every situation.

Help us to be living examples of your word,
extending your **kindness** to others, to the world and to ourselves.

Amen



kindness
to others, the world, ourselves