



TRINITY ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL



RIGHTS RESPECTING POLICY

This policy has been written to underpin our core values with particular reference to our Christian values and our Rights Respecting ethos.

UNCRC

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of a Child (UNCRC) sets out the rights of children in 54 articles and two optional protocols. These basic rights encompass survival, protection, development and participation.

The UNCRC is underpinned by four principles:

1. Non- discrimination
2. Commitment to the best interests of the child
3. The right to life, survival and development
4. Respect for the views of the child

Rights are universal and cannot be taken away. The main responsibility for ensuring that all children enjoy their rights lies with adults and all rights are equally important.

AIMS

At TSM we enable children to fulfil their role as responsible citizens now and in the future by developing skills of independence, creativity and teamwork. As part of thinking independently we seek to develop each child's ability to make informed choices, recognising that their actions contribute towards ensuring that the rights of all are respected. Our curriculum is founded upon the explicit development of these skills.

So, in the management of our school you will see:

Development as a rights respecting school is an integral part of our strategic planning.

All decisions being made in the best interests of the school.

That as school policies are reviewed, links with the values and principles of the UNCRC are made explicit.

Recruitment and induction practices reflect our rights respecting ethos.

Refresher training takes place annually for all staff to ensure that knowledge and understanding remains relevant.

So, in our school you will see;

Every year group learning about the UNCRC and viewing different areas of learning from a rights' perspective.

Displays explicitly linked to the UNCRC.

Parents, Governors and the wider community are included in our work as a Rights Respecting school.

Our Rights Respecting Ethos

TSM is a 'No Rules' school. Charters have replaced rules. Charters are drawn up after consultation between adults and children and identify the rights that are most relevant to that situation together with the ways in which adults and children will act in order to ensure that these rights are respected.

All members of the community model the Rights Respecting language.

The environment is safe physically and emotionally.

Conflicts are resolved using restorative approaches where children are empowered to seek solutions to problems.

Children are empowered to become active citizens and learners.

Pupils' opinions and thoughts are sought, encouraged and respected in all aspects of the school's work.

Pupil leadership is an integral part of the school's approach. Children are given opportunities to lead aspects of school life through a range of groups including: School Council, Rights Respecting Council, Peer Mediators, Eco-warriors and playground and lunch hall helpers.

Pupils are encouraged to identify themselves as Global Citizens and given opportunities to develop the knowledge and awareness of how they can have a positive impact on the world, now and in the future.

Roles and Responsibilities

The responsibility for TSM being a Rights Respecting School lies with every member of the community. The main responsibility rests with the adults.