



# St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School

## Environment Policy

### Introduction

1. We believe the School environment both indoors and outdoors must contribute positively to attitudes and behaviour. The quality of the learning environment has a considerable influence on children's academic standards and wellbeing. All teachers must give due regard to the Health and Safety Policy when organising their classroom e.g., not placing furniture or storing combustible materials in front of heaters, tears in carpets, faulty electrical equipment reported straight away. We aim therefore to provide a safe and stimulating learning environment.
2. Display is an important means of conveying to pupils, parents and community that St Bonaventure's is an interesting and stimulating environment in which to work and learn.
3. Classrooms will be cleaned each day and the caretaker will ensure that children have a clean and welcoming place to work in. Teachers should be vigilant regarding the safety of their classrooms, reporting directly to caretaker and/or Health and Safety Coordinator any areas of concern.
4. All teachers will take responsibility to ensure that their classroom is a stimulating place in which to learn.
5. The purpose of providing a stimulating classroom is:
  - to engage and promote interest and motivation
  - to recognise excellent work and help promote high standards
  - to show appreciation of the work of others
  - to support learning of the topics being studied
  - to create visually stimulating environment.
6. Displays will reflect topics being studied in classes and should be as interactive as possible.
7. Displays will be changed regularly to reflect current topics.
8. Displays should be clearly labelled with the year group shown for communal displays.
9. Displays should be neatly and securely placed.
10. Displays should be placed on boards provided - staples and blue tack/cellotape should only be used on display boards not on brick/plaster/wood.
11. Displays must not be placed on ceilings, tiles or attachments. Any attachment for ceiling display must be done professionally (new build) and must be kept away from light fittings.
12. We will strive to engender positive attitudes towards the environment. This means that we will teach the children to have respect for the equipment and facilities in the School and play their part in looking after their classroom and the general environment.
13. Children will be expected to leave their classrooms in a neat and tidy manner.
14. No litter or equipment should be left on the floor and all equipment put away in its appropriate place.
15. Each child will have a place to keep their books.
16. The Classteacher has the responsibility for maintaining a well ordered, tidy and safe classroom.
17. Each class will have a cloakroom area in which to keep coats, PE bags and sandwich boxes, which must be kept tidy at all times.
18. Furniture in classrooms should be essential and functional.
19. All items must be stored in the storage facilities provided.
20. Surfaces will be clean and clutter free.
21. Each classroom will have a children's display to include:
  - Class timetable.
  - Classroom rules.
  - House/award charts.
  - Music timetables.
  - Current events.

22. All classrooms will provide a prayer table/special place for the display of RE artefacts (pictures/objects) or children's work to provide a focal point for classroom reflections and prayers. .
23. All our children have access to the playground. There is equipment such as a balancing log and bridge, friend's stop, picnic tables and marked area for netball. The sports field is used for a variety of games and for PE. We encourage the children to use the field during dry weather. Children in reception have access to an 'outside classroom'.
23. Communal areas (e.g., staffroom, resource rooms, DT room, and kitchen) are the responsibility of all staff.

#### Review

23. We are committed to reviewing progress on how well we comply with this policy. This will be taken forward via regular classroom checks carried out by the Head/Deputy Head teacher, during planned SIO visit and through the AGMEP.
24. The Headteacher will keep Governors inform of compliance with the policy through the regular update reports.

#### Conclusion

The visual impact of our School is important to our success. We must always remember the importance of first impressions and take every opportunity to promote our School. The opening of the new build and the implementation of a new cleaning regime gives us the opportunity to set high expectations for the maintenance of a high quality environment for our School community.

The School follows the LA health and safety guidelines and has adopted the relevant policy.

***Reviewed and agreed by Finance, Premises, Health & Safety sub-committee on 30.6.2014***

***Agreed and signed off by the full governing body on 16.7.2014***

***Next review: Term 5 2015***