

## **Ethos Statement**

### **St. Louis Infant School**

#### ***Core Beliefs***

Each one in the school community of St. Louis Infant School children, teachers, ancillary staff, parents, chaplain and others connected with the school, form a Christian Community. Each has a role to play and all are interdependent on each other.

The staff emphasise that all should be treated with love, care, respect and kindness.

We acknowledge our Catholic and Irish heritage and promote the Christian values inherent in our faith and culture.

We recognise that all adults are there for the welfare of the children and, as teachers, we especially have a vital role in educating the children in our care. We are particularly conscious of the unique place we have in the lives of the children in their formative years.

We are alert to the uniqueness of each individual child and, as we appreciate the gifts and differences, we allow for flexibility when the need arises.

We believe that all work well in a happy and safe place and so we stress the importance of communicating feelings, needs, joys and difficulties.

We promote attitudes of honesty, truthfulness, respect and true freedom and we cultivate a sense of belonging and pride in our surroundings.

#### ***Elements of our culture***

We are an Irish Catholic School and we are proud of our heritage.

While we appreciate who we are we welcome children and parents from other cultures.

Our approach is towards the holistic development of each child.

We are diligent in our work and professional in our approach.

We challenge the children to give of their best and we support each other through teamwork, openness and respect.

Individual teachers bring their own particular gifts and talents to each class but core values remain constant.

Parents are recognised as partners with teachers in the children`s education and every effort is made to have good communication through meetings, newsletters, reminders, information leaflets, invitations etc.

Teachers are aware and accepting of our human limitations and are open to helpful suggestions from relevant sources.

The wider community is involved in the welfare of the children, namely The Department of Education and Science, the H.S.E., Monaghan Education Centre, the Board of Management and the Parents`Association.

### ***Procedures, values and expectations that guide our behaviour.***

The ethos of our school is enhanced by our religious and S.P.H.E. [Social, Personal and Health Education] programmes which have units that underpin Christian values, attitudes, beliefs and behaviour.

Each day starts and ends with a prayer and children experience a whole school Prayer Service on special occasions.

Children are encouraged to care for others through supporting the Missions and some particular Charities.

They are trained to take responsibility at their level by completing tasks and by caring for and taking pride in the school environment.

### ***“It`s the way we do things around here”***

The St. Louis motto, taken from the Prayer of Jesus ***“May they be one, as you Father are in me and I in You”*** [Jn:17;21] challenges us to live out the Gospel message of love and unity.

In our school the staff give of their best and are highly principled people.

There is a common approach where goals are set in all areas of school life, academic, moral, social and spiritual.

Planning and implementation is done allowing for each teacher`s gifts and individuality.

The teachers co-operate and support each other in creating a happy, friendly, busy environment while being kind, courteous, fair and consistent with the children.

Since ours is an Infant School we are particularly conscious of being good role models for the children, but we are also aware of our human frailties.

***Le chéile is treise muid***