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| **Catholic Ethos : A Framework for Self-Reflection**  *Reviewed and Revised October 2020* | | | | |
| **PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**  ”The Church must be a place of mercy, freely given,  where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven  and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel”  *Pope Francis* | | |
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**PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

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*Pope Francis*

| **INDICATORS** | | Evidence showing how this is **EMBEDDED**  in school life | Evidence showing how this is **DEVELOPING**  in school life | This area needs to be **DEVELOPED/REVIEWED**  *(See Planning Format)* |
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| 1. | The school is a pro-active member of the parish and local community. |  |  |  |
| 2. | The school recognises and values parents and carers as the primary educators of children and seeks to engage with them in a meaningful and respectful manner. |  |  |  |
| 3. | Parents are valued and welcomed in the school. |  |  |  |
| 4. | The opinion of parents is sought and listened to. |  |  |  |
| 5. | There is a complaints policy which all parents are made aware of. |  |  |  |
| 6. | Communication with parents is regular, timely, transparent and informative. |  |  |  |
| 7. | The school creates opportunities for parents to engage in personal and academic programmes to develop a culture of life-long learning and to support the educational progress of their children. |  |  |  |
| 8. | The school creates opportunities for parents and carers to be actively involved in the faith formation of their children. |  |  |  |
| 9. | The school seeks to identify and reach out to marginalised and vulnerable pupils and their families and either provide or signpost appropriate support e.g. mental health, substance abuse, bullying, e-safety. |  |  |  |
| 10. | The school seeks creative and innovative ways to actively engage and support parents/carers in the faith formation of their children. |  |  |  |
| 11. | Strong and active partnerships with local Catholic schools are actively sought and developed to enhance the concept of a ‘family’ of schools. |  |  |  |
| 12. | Relationships with schools in other sectors are actively promoted to create opportunities for co-operation, reconciliation and sharing and to enhance pupils’ appreciation of and respect for difference. |  |  |  |
| 13. | The school seeks to engage with a range of Church and external agencies to broaden and enrich the educational experiences of the pupils, consistent with Trustee policy, and to ensure equality of opportunity for all children. |  |  |  |
| 14. | Diocesan ‘Living Youth’ programmes, such as the Parish Gift programme, John Paul II Award are actively promoted in school to nurture pupils’ faith development. |  |  |  |
| 15. | All agencies with whom the school engages are welcomed, facilitated and supported in the work they do. |  |  |  |
| 16. | The school seeks to be a ‘hub ’for the local community, providing a resource for local groups to use and as a venue for parish and community events. |  |  |  |

**Partnership and Community Outreach - The Way Forward**

*Suggested Planning Proforma after completion of Audit*

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| **Date Audit**  **completed** |  | | **Who was involved in the Audit**  **discussion and completion?** | |  | |
| **Area(s) highlighted for**  **further development:** | |  | | | | |
| **Action(s)** | | **Timeline** | | **Person(s) responsible** | | **Resources required** |
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| **Monitoring and Evaluation on Completion** | | | | | | |
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**SECTION 7 : PARTNERSHIP AND COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

**Examples of Good Practice**

*"The Church must be a place of mercy, freely given,*

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*Pope Francis*

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| Representatives from local and national charities are invited  to the school to talk to the pupils about their work.  ***(Also relevant to Section 1 : Mission and***  ***Section 6 : Social Justice and Respect for the Environment)*** | The ongoing charity work – perhaps with a focus  on the needs within the local area/community. |
| Local schools, maintained and controlled, are invited to  take part in liturgical, musical, ecumenical and dramatic  events within the local parish/area. | The school works in partnership with nursery, primary  and post-primary schools to ensure a smooth  transition for all children.  ***(Also relevant to Section 1 : Mission)*** |
| The school encourages pupils and parents to  attend local parish events and Sacraments.  ***(Also relevant to Section 2 : Religious Education)*** | Parents are invited to attend and contribute to the  Sacramental Preparation meetings, including  the Do This In Memory programme.  ***(Also relevant to Section 2 : Religious Education)*** |
| The views of parents are sought by the school  using questionnaires, comment books etc to aid in the  development of the School Development Plan. | Pupils are encouraged to participate in community events  e.g. helping the local SVP, visiting the elderly, carol singing  at Christmas, preparing Shoe Boxes to donate to those  less fortunate etc.  ***(Also relevant to Section 1 : Mission)*** |
| The pupils take an active part/sing at parish Mass,  liturgical celebrations and for Sacramental events  throughout the year including CSW. | Family-works Counselling Service – a counsellor meets with  parents and children throughout the year and facilitates  parental engagement sessions both during and after school. |

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| The Internet Safety Programme is offered to parents  to help them become aware of the influences their  children may be exposed to whilst online. | The implementation of Sacramental Preparation at  Sunday Liturgies and the inclusion of the school  community within parish celebrations/liturgies. |
| The use of the school premises by the parish community  e.g. during the season of Advent and the Parish Mission. | The well-developed activities during Catholic Schools’ Week  involving the parish and local community focussing on the  annual theme or the patron saint of the school.  ***(Also relevant to Section 2 : Religious Education)*** |
| Outreach programmes for parents and wider school community  e.g. Colin Neighbourhood Project; Sure Start; Pre-Nursery  and Primary 1 admissions. | The promotion and development of a well-thought  out and planned Shared Education programme.  ***(Also relevant to Section 5 : Inclusion and Diversity)*** |
| The well-developed links with other schools  re: Sacramental Preparation.  ***(Also relevant to Section 2 : Religious Education)*** | The participation in the Roots of Empathy and  Rights Respecting Schools programmes. |
| Fundraising to facilitate the purchasing of additional resources  to facilitate and further develop learning and teaching. | The organisation of a school counsellor to  work with children who need support. |
| The inclusion of parents and the wider school community  to attend class/year group and whole school Assemblies,  Masses and other liturgical celebrations.  ***(Also relevant to Section 2 : Religious Education)*** | The development of a gym for use by parents and children  (together) with personal instructor to promote healthy living. |

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| The school organises parent teacher/social/literacy/numeracy/  pastoral care/parenting skills/internet safety etc sessions for parents.  ***(Also relevant to Section 1 : Mission)*** | An inventory of parents/friends of the school, who have been  vetted, is collated and updated annually ensuring extra help  when required e.g. school trips. |
| Members of the BOG have responsibility for different areas of the  curriculum and liaise with co-ordinators and visit the school.  ***(Also relevant to Section 4 : Learning and Teaching)*** | |