FCJ Primary School

Cultural Development Policy

Mission Statement

Teach the children with all the kindness and gentleness possible.

Academic Year:	2026-2027
Review Date:	Autumn Term 2027
Author	Mrs S Ó hEarchaí / Mrs L Gallichan

Article 30 -Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

The FCJ Governors are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people at every opportunity and expect all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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1 Introduction:

Catholic education promotes an appreciation of the value and richness of a child's own culture and that of the cultural diversity in each local community and beyond. It calls for an awareness that cultures, different from one's own, have their own special qualities and that the people of these cultures need to be met and understood as they are, not stereotyped.

2 Definition of Cultural Development:

Pupils' Cultural Development involves pupils acquiring an understanding of cultural traditions and ability to appreciate and respond to a variety of experiences. They acquire a respect for their own culture and that of others, an interest in others' ways of doing things and curiosity about differences. They develop the knowledge, skills, understanding, qualities, and attitudes they need to understand, appreciate, and contribute to culture. In order to make provision for Cultural Development, existing knowledge, interests and experiences are strengthened and then built upon further. In this way pupils gain a deeper understanding of their own culture and the factors which influence it and gain a broader understanding of other cultures and cultural influences.

All areas of the curriculum are used to promote and develop cultural awareness, although the arts, music, dance, drama and art are often used. Culture gives expression to a community's spirituality, morality and social values. At FCJ Primary School, we recognise that the personal development of pupils – spiritually, morally, socially and culturally – plays a significant part in their ability to learn and achieve. Through our ordinarily available provision, we ensure that all pupils are supported to access and participate in these rich learning experiences through inclusive teaching approaches, adaptive strategies and appropriate support that recognise and respond to individual needs.

3 Aims of Cultural Development:

We aim to provide a Catholic education that provides children with opportunities to explore and develop the Gospel values and beliefs, spiritual awareness, high standards of personal behaviour, a positive caring attitude towards other people, an understanding of their social and cultural traditions and an appreciation of the diversity and richness of other cultures.

The aims of Cultural Development relate to differing aspects of the word 'culture.' These are as follows:

3.1 to develop a sense of belonging to pupils' own culture and being proud of their cultural background.

3.2 to respond to cultural events.

3.3 to share different cultural experiences.

3.4 to respect different cultural traditions.

3.5 to understand codes of behaviour, fitting to cultural tradition.

3.6 to respond to cultural events.

3.7 to share diverse cultural experiences.

3.8 to respect diverse cultural traditions.

3.9 to understand codes of behaviour, fitting to cultural tradition.

4 Objectives for Cultural Development:

The aims of Cultural Development relate to differing aspects of the word 'culture.' These are as follows:

4.1 to develop an understanding of different cultural traditions.

4.2 to appreciate the values and customs of other ethnic and faith groups which make up our local community, and the world beyond.

4.3 to develop the ability to value current cultural enthusiasms, icons, music and media, critically and independently of peer pressure.

4.4 to develop an understanding of diverse cultures and beliefs.

5 Opportunities for Cultural Development:

5.1 Within the curriculum, children will be able to explore:

5.1.1 Their own opinions about local and global issues.

5.1.2 The importance of active listening to others when discussing cultural diversity.

5.2 Opportunities will be provided for children to:

5.2.1 Gain insights into the way of life, cultural traditions, moral and social developments of other people.

5.2.2 Foster appreciation and understanding of different cultures, religions and traditions.

5.3 Planned opportunities for Cultural Development:

Cultural Development is the responsibility of the whole school community. It is made through the planned and hidden curriculum. In other words, at FCJ Primary School we address morality both explicitly and implicitly.

5.4 We address Cultural Development explicitly through:

Developing partnerships with outside agencies and individuals to extend pupils' cultural awareness, for example, theatre and museum visits.

The delivery of lessons within our PSHEE provision.

The delivery of lessons within our Geography provision.

6 Conclusion

We encourage children to show an interest in exploring cultural diversity and show positive responses towards different religions, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

Please also refer to the following policies:

Religious Education
Moral Development
Spiritual Development
Social Development

PSHE & Prayer and Liturgy.