



# Celebrating and Worshipping

***“What makes the Catholic school distinctive is its attempt to generate a community climate that is permeated by the Gospel spirit of freedom and love”***

# St Augustine's RC High School

St Augustine's High School educates young people to the highest possible standards in many ways - academically, spiritually, physically, socially and emotionally.

Naturally, of prime importance are our high expectations and the academic achievement of our young people. But we are about more than that.

The Religious Education Curriculum develops our young people's knowledge of the Church and its teaching. It explores Moral questions and gives them a grounding which they will take with them when they leave school and take their place in Society. Pupils are encouraged to live out their faith and pupils have the opportunity to consider what their faith means to them.

There is a Pastoral Group which, among other things, helps organise the celebration of the liturgy as well as marking in a special way the church seasons of Advent and Lent.

In our school, we see an increased awareness of the global dimension of the world and of the needs of people in developing countries. We actively support the work of SCIAF during Lent. Our Advent focus is on the needs of our local community and at that time we support our local food banks.

The school also involves itself in a number of fund-raising activities which support local charities. This year we have introduced the Fr Duffy Memorial Fund which will provide funding for a sick person to take part in the Archdiocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes.

Pupils are well versed in education for citizenship and take on responsibilities through their involvement in the student councils and membership of other groups. Senior pupils are encouraged through our Buddy Scheme to care and look out for younger pupils, helping their transition.

In Scotland the introduction of the CARITAS AWARD for senior school pupils is providing an opportunity for young people to respond to the Gospel by showing love and faith in practical ways and by becoming active members of local parishes and faith communities. This year we have 65 pupils who are working towards their award.



## St Cuthbert's Roman Catholic Primary School



St Cuthbert's Primary School is your friendly, local Roman Catholic Primary School, which aims to provide a positive learning environment where every member of the school community is valued, supported and encouraged to fulfill themselves as a learner and as a person to the best of their ability. We serve the community of Slateford, Gorgie, Dalry, Longstone, Craiglockhart, Baberton, Juniper Green, Currie and Balerno.

At St Cuthbert's we strive to ensure that our children learn in a safe, happy and inclusive environment where they grow and develop spiritually, emotionally, socially, and physically as well as academically. The publication of 'This Is Our Faith' as the Church's national syllabus for religious education, has provided teachers with a clear progression framework to ensure that the children are able to deepen their understanding of their faith and Jesus's teaching as they progress through the school stages. Our Primary 6 and Primary 7 pupils take part in the Pope Francis Faith Award. This Award recognizes young people who have put their faith into action and have shown "signs of love" to others. It is named in honour of Pope Francis because of the good example he sets and focuses on the gifts of the Holy Spirit and how they are applied at home, in school and within the parish community. Children in P6 and P7 also use the God's Loving Plan programme, created by the church, to learn about changes to the body in puberty, the sacrament of marriage and parenthood. Our Primary 3 and Primary 4 pupils work with their teachers, our parish priest and the whole school and parish community to prepare and receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. In normal, non-Covid times, all of our classes regularly attend, prepare and lead class celebrations of Mass throughout the year.

Although we are living in what can be perceived as a more secular and materialistic society, all of our children are taught and encouraged to love and respect others and to be kind and generous in their thoughts, words and actions. The values of equality and inclusion along with gospel values underpin life within the school.

Through their awareness of global citizenship and work on Rights Respecting Schools, the children also have a knowledge and understanding of the challenges experienced by children in other countries and in response they support the work of SCIAF and Mary's Meals throughout the year. The school also raises money for charities based in Scotland.

The Catholic ethos of our school encourages the children to love and respect their neighbour and in doing so to serve the needy and the poor. Please see the values below that were created by our pupils, teachers, parents and carers:

### ***St Cuthbert's CARES We are: Creative Active Respectful Equal Supported***

If you would like any other information about St Augustine's RC High School or St Cuthbert's RC Primary School please contact the school office:

**St Cuthbert's RC Primary School: 0131 443 2621**

**Website: [www.st-cuthberts-primary.com](http://www.st-cuthberts-primary.com)**

**Twitter: @StCuthbertsRCP**

# Charter for Catholic Schools in Scotland



The mission of the Catholic school is to develop as a community of faith and learning, providing the highest quality of education, and offering formation through the promotion of Gospel values, through celebration and worship, and through service to the common good.

**All Catholic schools in Scotland**, in honouring Jesus Christ as the Way, the Truth and the Life, will feature the following characteristics:

- a commitment to the integrated education and formation of the whole person, in close partnership with parents as the first educators of their children;
- an inclusive ethos which aims to honour the life, dignity and voice of each person, made in the image of God;
- a commitment to the search for wisdom in life and to the pursuit of excellence, through the development of each person's unique God-given talents;
- a commitment to the spiritual formation of the school community, through the shared experience of prayer and liturgy, and in partnership with local parishes;
- the provision of religious education programmes which will enable young people to develop their understanding of Gospel values and of how to apply them to life;
- a commitment to uphold the moral teaching, faith tradition and sacramental life of the Catholic Church;
- a commitment to communicate Catholic social teaching and thereby to promote social justice and opportunity for all;
- a commitment to ecumenical action and the unity of Christians;
- the promotion of respect for different beliefs and cultures and for inter-faith dialogue;
- a commitment to support the continuing professional and spiritual development of staff.

**All staff appointed to a Catholic school** are expected to support and promote the aims, mission, values and ethos of the school, as illustrated in this Charter.