# Community Engagement Policy

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**We are a rights respecting school. All our policies and procedures are written and reviewed to ensure that children's rights, as detailed in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, are respected and promoted and this policy ensures:**

*Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.*

*Article 5 (parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities) Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.*

For more information on the convention and the rights of each child visit: http://www.unicef.org.uk/

# St Ann's Church of England Primary School
# Community Engagement Policy

**Introduction**

At St Ann's Church of England Primary School, we recognise the vital role we play in fostering community cohesion. We are committed to supporting this through:

- Developing a shared vision and a strong sense of belonging among all members of our community.
- Cultivating an appreciation of the diverse backgrounds and circumstances of individuals.
- Creating opportunities for every child to reach their full potential.
- Building strong, positive relationships within and beyond our school community.

We acknowledge that migration and economic changes continue to shape our increasingly diverse local community. While our school remains predominantly mono-cultural, we are dedicated to preparing our children for life in modern Britain, equipping them to thrive in a multi-cultural society and global environment.

The term 'community' encompasses multiple dimensions for us, including:

- The school community: pupils, parents, staff, governors, and community users of our facilities and services.
- Educational networks: partnerships with other schools, colleges, work-based learning providers, and external organisations.
- Local communities: Rainhill, Prescot, St Helens, Widnes, Liverpool, and the wider Merseyside area.
- National community: the United Kingdom.
- Global community: fostering awareness and responsibility beyond national borders.

**Our Contribution to Community Engagement**

We actively promote community engagement by:

- Championing equality of opportunity and fostering an inclusive culture for all pupils, regardless of background or protected characteristics as defined by law.
- Encouraging our pupils to engage thoughtfully with diverse views, beliefs, and opinions, demonstrating respect for different protected characteristics.

Our contribution to community engagement is structured under three key areas:

**Teaching, Learning, and Curriculum**

Supporting pupils to understand and appreciate diversity, respect human rights, and develop skills for responsible participation in society.

**Equity and Excellence**

Ensuring every pupil has equal opportunity to achieve their full potential.

**Engagement and Extended Services**
Providing purposeful opportunities for pupils to connect with diverse communities, contribute to local development, build partnerships, and access extended services.

**Current Practice and Future Commitment**
Community engagement is already embedded within our practice, and we remain committed to further development in this area.

- As part of The Three Saints Academy Trust, we collaborate closely with the Northwest Learning Partnership and the Maths Hub, fostering strong educational networks across the Trust and beyond.
- We maintain high standards of teaching, learning, and curriculum provision, setting ambitious and challenging individual targets for all pupils.
- Our curriculum and wider school activities promote shared values, encourage appreciation of differences, and actively challenge prejudice, discrimination, derogatory language, and stereotyping. This is evident in Collective Worship, RE, History, Geography, PSHE & RSE, Financial Education, Citizenship programmes, and our Super Leaders initiative.
- We offer a rich programme of curricular and extra-curricular activities, including focus days/weeks, residential visits, cultural experiences, and encounters with diverse communities.
- Our Collective Worship and assemblies incorporate links to Fundamental British Values, Christian Values, the UNICEF Children's Rights Charter, Sustainable Development Goals, global awareness days, and contributions from local and wider community members.

We promote high achievement standards for all pupils through challenging targets, regular progress monitoring, and robust intervention strategies.

We work proactively to remove barriers to learning and close attainment gaps between different groups.

Our inclusive, caring ethos is supported by an effective pastoral system.

We uphold high behavioural standards and have clear procedures to address incidents of prejudice, derogatory language, bullying, and harassment.

**School-to-School Links**
- We maintain extensive partnerships with other schools, enabling pupils to participate in local competitive tournaments through our PE curriculum and after-school clubs.
- Staff engage with other schools via Trust networks, the Northwest Learning Partnership, and the Maths Hub.

**Engagement with Parents and the Wider Community**

- Pupils have a strong voice through leadership opportunities such as the Super Leaders initiative.
- Groups of pupils actively support the local community, for example, by singing in residential homes and collecting donations for food banks.
- We engage parents through family learning workshops, mentoring conversations, Parent Forum, coffee mornings, family worship, and regular consultations.
- Our Pastoral Team collaborates with external agencies to support families in need.
- We maintain strong links with social services, health providers, police, and local community groups, offering facilities for community activities such as training sessions and meetings.
- Annual fundraising events support local, national, and global charities.
- We have particularly close ties with our local church.

**Extended Services**

- We provide childcare through breakfast and after-school clubs (BASE).
- We offer a varied programme of extra-curricular activities.
- We ensure swift referrals and good collaboration with external agencies.
- Parenting support is available through various initiatives.
- Our facilities are accessible to the local community for wider use.