



Sunderland High School

The best in everyone

School Aims and Ethos

This is a key policy of Sunderland High School. It applies to all members of the school community including those in our EYFS setting. The policy is available to all parents, prospective parents, school governors, members of the UCST Board and ISI Inspectors. This policy is available in printed form upon request or it can be accessed and downloaded via the school's website, www.sunderlandhigh.co.uk. By contacting either Mrs E. Martin (school registrar, 0191 5677674) or Miss C. McArdle (Junior School Secretary, 0191 5143278) additional copies of the policy can be made available. In addition, larger print copies can also be produced upon request.

This policy has due regard to the DCSF guidance 'Safe to Learn: Embedding anti-bullying work in schools' Further, its effective implementation is supported by reference to the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy, PSHE Schemes of Work and SMSC development of our pupils.

Sunderland High School seeks to implement this document through adherence to the procedures set out in the rest of this document.

Sunderland High School is fully committed to ensuring that the application of this policy is non-discriminatory in line with the UK Equality Act (2010). Further details are available in the school's Equal Opportunities Policy document.

This document is reviewed annually by AJS / CWB or as events or legislation change requires. The next scheduled review date is September 2011.

'The best in everyone'

School Aims

At Sunderland High School we aim to ensure that every child receives the care, attention and encouragement he or she needs to develop as a happy and confident individual within a safe environment.

We are committed to **bringing out the best** in our pupils- whether academic, sporting, artistic or musical – so that each one becomes a thriving and successful member of the school.

Our aim is that Sunderland High School pupils should always give their best, value others and get involved, both in school and in the wider community.

These aims exist in a condensed form for Junior School pupils, as follows:

We want to bring out the best in everyone.

Our aims are that:

- Every child feels happy and safe.
- Children are confident and successful.
- Talents and abilities are nurtured and celebrated.
- Pupils value citizenship in the school and wider community.

Sunderland High School belongs to the United Church Schools Trust (UCST). We are proud to share UCST's core values and the UCST objective of 'bringing out the best in everyone'.

School Ethos

Our School ethos is based upon respect: respect for self and respect for others. We are committed to helping our pupils develop this respect. We do this by:

- Inspiring Christian values
- Teaching life skills
- Promoting good citizenship
- Fostering a sense of developing responsibility
- Instilling self confidence
- Providing strong pastoral care
- Encouraging teamwork and cooperation

Our focus upon respect flows from our Christian values: along with the other schools in the United Church Schools Trust, we are a School founded upon Christian values.* We believe that true education must encourage the mental, physical and spiritual development of each pupil. We seek to be a welcoming community which values and respects others: we welcome pupils and parents of all faiths and none.

*Please refer to the UCST Statement of Christian Ethos (below).

THE UNITED CHURCH SCHOOLS TRUST

Statement of Christian Ethos

The Christian faith acknowledges the value and uniqueness of every human being regardless of gender, age, ethnic origin, creed or sexual orientation. It teaches the importance of love, respect, forgiveness and the need to work for peace and justice. We believe that true education must encourage the mental, physical and spiritual development of each pupil. Whilst the Christian faith is the majority culture with historical roots in Britain, we also acknowledge that we are a multi-faith and multi-cultural society. We honour and respect the position of those of other faith traditions and cultures, and welcome the contribution that they bring to our schools.

The ethos of all our schools is a core principle underpinning and permeating all that each school seeks to undertake and achieve. The objects of the Charitable Trust call for a liberal practical and general education and set out clearly the place given to the teachings of Christianity principally as are found in the Church of England but sensitive also to the teachings, attitudes and practices of other Christian denominations. This has been interpreted over a long period as being of a mainstream nature, inclusive and tolerant. It does not embrace extreme views and does not set out to evangelise: it is much more an expression of service to the local community.

The interpretation of this underpinning principle within a school and its community requires sensitivity, respect and tolerance. The aim for the school is that it will be a place of learning with a clear spiritual and moral dimension. Whilst the Christian faith will be the starting point and the central focus for the ethos of the Trust and the school, the beliefs and practices of other faiths will be valued and respected. It is hoped that parents and pupils of all faiths will find the school a welcoming community.

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Revised January 2011