

## **A Catholic Mission – ‘Forward in Faith’**

Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College plays an important role in both the local and city-wide Catholic community. In 1988 we were a founding member of Birmingham’s Catholic Partnership of Secondary Schools. The distinctive Catholic ethos of our school is distinguished by the quality of care extended to all its members regardless of race, gender, background or ability. In November 2013 we underwent successful Diocesan inspection under Section 48 of the inspection schedule. The inspection judged Cardinal Wiseman to be a “good Catholic school with several outstanding features.” We also hold the Leading Aspect Award in Faith and Values, giving national recognition to what we represent as a Catholic community. ‘Frontem in Fide – Forward in Faith’ is our Mission Statement:

“Cardinal Wiseman Catholic Technology College is committed to providing an education for all our young people inspired by the teachings of Christ. The Gospel message of love of God and of one another shapes our daily life. By ‘Gospel Message’ we mean the Good News that God loved the world so much that he gave His only Son, Jesus, (John 3:16), so that instead of being separated from God by sin, we can enjoy life in all its fullness (John 10:10). Jesus tells us the way to do this is to love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind and all your strength...and to love your neighbour as yourself. As we do this, we will indeed be perfect as your Heavenly Father is perfect, (Mark 12:30-31).”

We will put our mission statement into action in the following ways:-

- All staff members must have high expectations of students and we will communicate these in every aspect of school life.
- Staff will strive to speak calmly and respectfully to all students at all times.
- We will encourage all students to always give of their best.
- We will encourage an enthusiasm for and an enjoyment of learning.
- We will celebrate the success of all students regularly.
- We will instil respect for religious and moral values, and tolerance of other races, religions and ways of life.

All students entering Cardinal Wiseman will study Religious Education from Year 7 to Year 11. All children will be entered for an accredited qualification in Religious Education at the end of Year 11. Part of this learning path involves celebration of the Holy Eucharist, services of reconciliation, daily prayer and involvement in school retreats. Mass is celebrated each week on Friday afternoon at 2.20 pm in the hall. One class from the school is joined by a class from one of our feeder primary schools.

Each teaching area has a crucifix and a ‘faith board’ which has copies of prayers, the Angelus and inspirational Bible quotes. Our team of Lay Chaplains ensure that faith boards are kept up-to-date and provide tutors with a variety of prayers for use with students. The daily Act of Worship takes the form of praying the Angelus at 10.30 am. This is not only a statutory obligation but one that is an important part of our Mission as a Catholic School. The liturgical

life of the school is the focus of the academic, pastoral and social dimensions of school. A variety of liturgical celebrations are planned during the school year.

As well as the contribution of our team of Lay Chaplains, we also enjoy the support of Fr Eamonn Corduff, our School Chaplain, who is Parish Priest of Christ the King and Our Lady of the Assumption Parishes. He is available to respond to the spiritual and personal needs of our children. Fr Edward Clare also celebrates mass regularly with us. As October is the month of the Holy Rosary a decade is said at 8.10 each morning in the chapel as it is in May.