

Citizenship POLICY STATEMENT 2008-09

Introduction

Citizenship is recognised as an essential part of the young person's full entitlement. Citizenship is delivered within the Tutorial and Timetabled Programmes and links and cross curricular links.

Principles:

- Citizenship contributes to the development of young people in becoming informed, thoughtful and responsible citizens who are aware of their rights and duties.
- Citizenship is considered to be an essential mode of meeting the five outcomes of Every Child Matters
- Citizenship promotes spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
- Citizenship enables pupils to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding of their role and responsibilities in society at a local, national and international level.
- development, making pupils more self-confident and responsible both in and beyond the classroom and enables young people to contribute to the life of the school, their neighbourhood, communities and the wider world.
- 'Citizenship teaches young people about our economy and democratic institutions and values; encourages respect for different national, religious and ethnic identities, and develops pupils' ability to reflect on issues and take part in discussions.' (*The National Curriculum Handbook for Secondary Teachers in England 1999 OCA/99/458 p.183*)
- Citizenship Curriculum involves:
 - Key concepts** – democracy and justice, rights and responsibilities, identities and diversity,
 - Key processes** - critical thinking and enquiry, advocacy and representation, taking informed and responsible action
 - Range and content**
 - Curriculum opportunities**

Practice

St. Anthony's Girls' School will:

- Enable young people to develop their understanding and knowledge relating to the basis of their own cultural heritage and the development of different communities, through the Citizenship Programme, a cross-curricular input and community involvement.
- Enable pupils to enquire about the differences, injustices, rights and responsibilities within their own and the wider community by providing access to internet and other communication/media sources
- Provide opportunities for pupils to develop their self-confidence and decision-making skills in order to articulate empathy and formulate informed opinions
- Enable pupils to gain an appreciation of the necessary part they play within the community of St. Anthony's Girls' School and how this is reflected in the wider community
- Provide opportunities for pupils to research and learn about institutions, issues problems and practices of our democracy and to extend their opinions by considering the complexities of issues and by research and discussion
- Provide opportunities for pupils to meet and debate topical issues with outside agencies.