

## ASSESSMENT FOR LEARNING POLICY

**Rationale :** St Mary's Catholic School recognises that assessment is a valuable aid to learning, as well as contributing to a record of attainment.

**Procedure :** All teaching staff at St Mary's Catholic School aim to....

- Vary the way they feedback to pupils on their work, using diagnostic comments and learning objectives in addition to marks and grades, in line with the school marking policy.
- Share learning objectives (what pupils will learn and why) and learning outcomes (how pupils can then do/understand as a result of this learning) in every lesson.
- Base all lessons on the scheme of work. The scheme of work will be based on National Curriculum Programmes of Study.
- Give oral feedback which is planned or spontaneous, formal or informal, targeted on individual needs or a general reflection, as appropriate. Such feedback will be encouraging, developmental, allow pupils to expand on their responses, model appropriate language, and correct misconceptions.
- Give written feedback which refers to learning objectives or outcomes, conveys clear expectations, and clearly identifies the strengths and areas for development for that pupil, in curricular rather than numerical terms (the latter is already provided for, through the school's target setting mechanisms).
- Use peer and self-assessment as appropriate through planned opportunities in lessons. Pupils will assess work against learning outcomes and level/grade descriptors in order to become independent learners who can engage in self-reflection and identify the next steps in their own learning.

**Evaluation :** Assessment for Learning will enhance pupils' learning through high quality oral and written teacher feedback, and pupil assessment, all of which will be referenced against clearly defined learning objectives and outcomes. Success criteria will be:

- Work scrutiny shows a range of assessment strategies used to evaluate pupils' work.
- Oral and written feedback seen in both of the above is diagnostic and developmental.
- Peer/self assessment is seen in use in lesson plans and practice.

Reviewed: February 2009

Review date : July 2012

Responsible Governor Committee: Curriculum