

Church of Ireland United Dioceses of Cork, Cloyne and Ross

Ethos Statement of

St. Michael's School, Blackrock, Cork

Roll Number 18388F

St. Michael's School is a Church of Ireland National School under the patronage of the Bishop of Cork, Cloyne and Ross.

The school serves the parish of Blackrock. St. Michael's School is co-educational and was founded in 1866.

The small school environment is conducive to the promotion of a happy family atmosphere where each child gets a high degree of attention and is valued for their individuality. We endeavour to create a well functioning, stimulating, happy and safe environment, which promotes the dignity and individuality of every pupil, including those with special educational needs, enabling them to reach their full potential.

St. Michael's School has traditionally served pupils from the Church of Ireland and member churches of the Anglican Communion and other churches in full communion with the Church of Ireland. The school is a school which, in accordance with the Education (Admissions to Schools) Act 2018, serves those of a "minority religion".

This Church of Ireland national school is a part of the local church community and has strong links with the parish. This, for example, is shown by the fact that the pupils attend and take part in services in St. Michael's Church and the Rector or Curate visit the school for weekly assembly and for other occasions.

St. Michael's School is a community where all pupils are equally valued and respected-irrespective of gender, social or ethnic background, family circumstances, educational achievement, physical characteristics or intellectual functioning. Pupils experience a sense of caring and belonging. They are treated fairly and their spiritual, moral and religious development is encouraged as is their intellectual, social and academic development.

St. Michael's School is a community where moral values such as honesty, truthfulness, justice, fairness, sensitivity to others, and civic responsibility are nurtured and protected. The justification of these qualities is based on Christian teaching interpreted by the Church. The school nurtures freedom of thought and a personal relationship with God. This is most evident in the teaching of Religious Education, and in the prayer life of the school community.

Religious Education occupies a central position in the school curriculum and is regarded as a core subject. All classes are taught religious education using the *Follow Me* - Religious Education Programme. The teaching of religious education is allocated to specific times in the school timetable. However, the religious ethos will also permeate other areas of the curriculum. The Church of Ireland School is one where Christian traditions and teaching offer a framework which inform ethical issues which may arise in the teaching of secular subjects.

The Board of Management follow the school's Admission Policy when allocating places at the school.

We value parental support and welcome their involvement.

St. Michael's School promotes lifelong learning and supports staff in continuous professional development. The work of the school is conducted in an atmosphere of tolerance and respect for religious differences.

Positive discipline and a supportive, stimulating environment, which is conducive to learning, are fostered within the school. In St. Michael's School, we endeavour to create a well functioning, happy and safe environment which promotes the dignity and individuality of every pupil, including those with special educational needs, enabling them to reach their full potential. We aim to educate the whole child in a Christian atmosphere in partnership with the parents/guardians, Board of Management and the wider community.

Our school and parish church are named after St. Michael.

St. Michael's School has a tradition of academic, sporting, musical, science, Irish Language and artistic excellence. We take great pride in our school, its pupils and staff who together ensure that all pupils receive a holistic education and reach their full potential. The school has a tradition of developing pupils who are caring and socially responsible members of society.

Potential parents who are attracted to and share the values and ethos of our school are invited to apply for a place in the school for their child/children.

Mol an Óige agus Tíocfaidh Sí.