



# Archbishop Holgate's School

A Church of England Academy

## **RAMADAN POLICY**

*In this policy we explain how we follow our safer recruitment procedures to ensure the safeguarding of our students.*

Last Review Date: March 2016

Next Review Date: March 2019

Member of staff responsible: Sb – Designated Safeguarding Lead

Governor's sub-committee responsible: Pastoral

Archbishop Holgate's School is committed to developing to the full, the potential of each member of the school community, within the context set by its mission, its strategic aims, and its Christian values as a Church of England Academy.

## Vision and Values of Archbishop Holgate's School

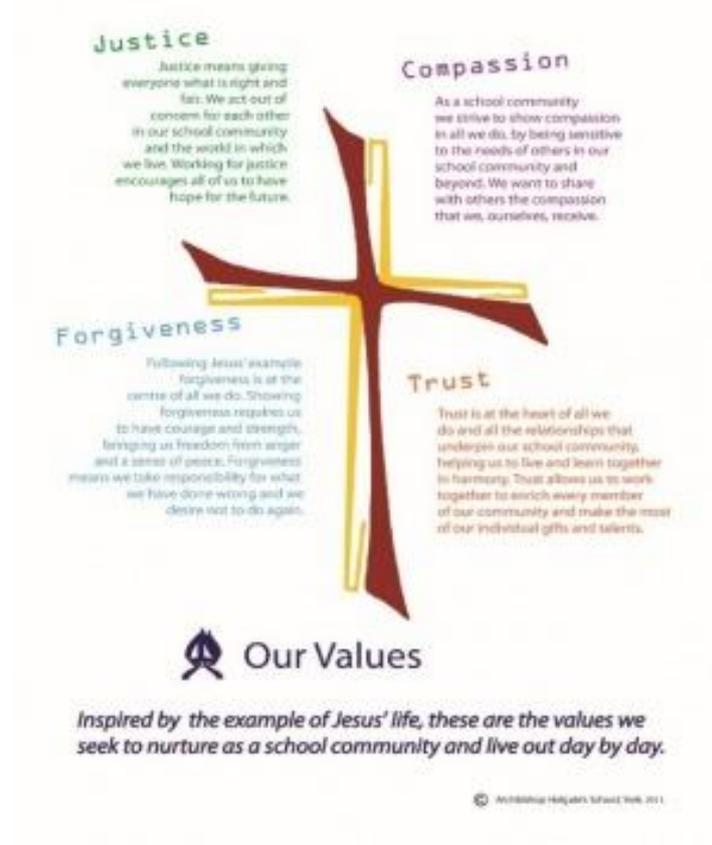
As a Church of England school we strive to ensure that all of our young people are cared for, given every opportunity to develop through academic study, to grow personally and spiritually and to live into being those Values we hold dear in our community and in wider society. Our role as a Church school is to help nurture both academic excellence and to help shape young people who can make a significant contribution to the community they serve. Key to this is a clear recognition that all students have individual gifts and talents and with support every young person can flourish.

Archbishop Holgate's School is distinctive and effective as a Church of England school because our Christian vision and values are very explicit and drive all areas of school life. Our Vision is one which combines Values, Care and Achievement.

### “A threefold cord is not easily broken.” Ecclesiastes 4:12

Through this vision we seek to be a Church of England School which is deeply Christian. As such, the three themes of our vision, Values, Care and Achievement are deliberately expressed in that order, our distinct Christian Values help ensure that every child is cared for as an individual and this in turn will help them to succeed academically.

Our school values of **Justice**, **Compassion**, **Forgiveness** and **Trust** have been embedded across our school community and permeate all areas of school life.



This policy is to complement our vision and values and to enable the school to allow all members of Archbishop Holgate's community to live them into being every day.

This policy has been made in consultation with the Imam at York Mosque, Sheikh Abid Salik.

## **POLICY ON FASTING DURING THE MUSLIM MONTH OF RAMADAN**

### **AIMS**

1. To provide a safe environment for students who wish to fast during part or all of the month of Ramadan.
2. To ensure the proper care of students is maintained and keep parents informed if their child is unwell.
3. To further develop understanding of the different faiths represented in the school population.
4. To anticipate that fasting may make some students weak or tired so adapt attendance procedures where appropriate.

### **IMPLEMENTATION**

1. All parents/careers must inform the Headteacher in writing if they wish their child to fast for part or all of the month of Ramadan. Requesting if they wish their child to be withdrawn from PE. A copy of this policy will then be forwarded to them.
2. We recognise in Islam that fasting is not compulsory before the age of puberty or afterwards.
3. Students who are fasting should not be expected to exert themselves physically, and can be exempt from swimming. For Health and Safety reasons, parents of students who are fasting can request that they do not have to participate in active physical education lessons at the time they are fasting. This includes swimming. At this time they can do some health related learning.
4. It is the schools statutory duty of care to ensure the Health, Safety and Well-being of every student in our care. In the rare circumstance of a student becoming distressed when he or she is fasting, the school will provide the student with something to eat or drink. The school will make every attempt to consult with the students' parents before making this decision and might, if required contact a health professional for advice.
5. We will inform the staff of any student who is fasting, so that due consideration can be made.
6. A classroom will be available during lunch times for students so they can rest and be quiet. They can also use this room for prayers or to share the Qur'an with other Muslim students.
7. As is the tradition in the school, some assemblies held during Ramadan will be to create an understanding of the Muslim faith and the festival of Eid-ul-Fitr.

### **HEALTH AND SAFETY**

1. Parents MUST inform the school via letter if their child is fasting.
2. The school will inform parents immediately if their child who is fasting becomes unwell.
3. Children who fast must conserve their energy and not join in strenuous games.
4. Parents must inform school if their child is going to be late.

### **INCLUSION**

1. There is mutual co-operation between the parents of children who are fasting and the school.
2. All students in the school are encouraged to feel positive about their family, their culture and their faith.