

Acts of charity and work in the community

The CTK Graces

In the context of our mission, Grace is a divinely given talent, a blessing or prayer. Grace is a virtue and way of being, characterised by courteous goodwill. Our Character Education Programme – The CTK Graces – signifies the character traits that we explicitly develop in students so that they model the expectations, habits and behaviours inherent in an approach to learning. These are:

- **G** – Grit
- **R** – Respect
- **A** – Awareness
- **C** – Curiosity
- **E** – Endeavour
- **S** – Self-control

In doing this we enrich our communities and challenge our students to live a good life in all its fullness.

Through the Christ the King initiative, Acts of Charity, students make a significant contribution to the common good through charity and volunteering.

The college charities are Macmillan Cancer Care, Cafod, For Jimmy, You Touch Africa, Ahotokorum and Deptford Reach. Every Christmas and Easter, students create gift hampers to donate to local charities.

Although the initiative is called Acts of Charity, it is not only about charity work. Christ the King students also actively get involved in community work. Christ the King students have taken part in litter collections in local parks, worked in care homes and primary schools and got involved in recruiting new shops to join Lewisham's water bottle refilling scheme, which allows people to refill plastic water bottles on their premises to reduce plastic waste. Students volunteer to become student ambassadors, receiving training on how to be effective and how to help others.

Through engagement with the range of charity-based activities and those aimed at supporting and building community, students model selflessness and a wider appreciation of others.

The overall effect is that community and CTK values are lived out in a practical, visible way. Kindness and consideration towards others, based on Gospel values, becomes part of students' thinking and actions.



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The Catholic Life of the College



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Life at CTK

Established in 1992, Christ the King is a family of three Catholic sixth forms in the South London area, dedicated to the education and development of the whole person.

With an ethos based on the wisdom, love and humanity of Christ, our sixth forms are a very special place to be.

Mission Statement

We are dedicated to the education and development of the whole person, so that all students can achieve their full potential. To achieve this as a community we will:

- Provide the highest standards of teaching and learning.
- Expect students to show commitment to their studies and the Christian values of the College.
- Provide equality of opportunity, with mutual respect and positive encouragement.
- Build and further develop a partnership with parents, schools, parishes, higher education, employers and the local community.
- Value staff and support their professional development.

In doing this we will reflect Christ's teaching in the life and work of the whole College.

Our values underpin all we do and as inclusive sixth forms, we warmly welcome students of all faiths and no faith. We are proud to be a vibrant and diverse community where we recognise the dignity and humanity of every individual. Through our mission and values, we foster a spirit of generosity and love to which we all subscribe.

Our students take pride in their sixth form and value the opportunities for ambitious and aspirational achievement, enrichment, opportunities for prayer and worship, and the friendships gained as a member of our unique communities. Our success is thus founded on our strong Catholic ethos and sense of values that underpin all aspects of sixth form life and create a highly supportive learning environment.

The Chaplaincy

Our sixth form mission and ethos is fully supported through the work of our Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy team celebrates with students from all faiths and none in times of joy, or advises them in times of difficulty. The Chaplaincy aims to foster and develop the spiritual life of the individual and of the sixth form, based on the life and teachings of Jesus Christ. We have well-resourced Chaplaincy areas at each of our sixth forms.

The spacious and comfortable Chaplaincy rooms are a hub for social activity, with beautiful adjoining Chapels for prayer and worship. The Chaplaincy room is open to all – students just drop-in to relax, meet with friends or participate in an organised activity. The Chapel is a place for quiet space to reflect and pray. Mass is celebrated in the Chapel weekly and on Holy Days throughout the year.

Students don't have to be religious to get involved. The Chapels afford an opportunity for students of any faith or none to find some peace and space for reflection.

The Chaplaincy team meets weekly with tutor Chaplaincy representatives to discuss issues, plan events, and contribute to College Liturgies. They receive support, training and experience retreat opportunities. This role helps student to grow in confidence, develop leadership skills and to make a difference.

Our students say:

“The chaplain is someone who anybody can talk to regardless of your faith. They can be there as a listener if you just need to talk and they will never judge.”

“The Chaplaincy is a calm place where all students can go to clear their minds and discuss anything that is bothering them; they are always able to get an answer.”

“It also is a good place for people to meet and have fellowship for God and each other.”

Religious Education

Ut Vitam Habeant – That they may have life in all its fullness

John 10:10

Students are invited by our motto to grow and flourish in every way. Religious education is a core element of our curriculum through which we encourage students to consider how they might live a life in all its fullness. It is delivered through three programmes, each providing an opportunity to reflect on a wide range of issues including relationships, justice, science and religion and faith traditions. In partnership with the sixth form Chaplaincy, celebrations and reflections are also delivered for students to mark significant times in the Christian calendar.

The 10:10 RE and Ethics programme contributes to the development of the whole person, with a specific focus on the themes of Faith, Hope and Charity. As part of the programme, students reflect on the wider spiritual and moral issues they face as they become young adults and are encouraged to be ready to contribute to the common good.

The Thought for the Week and Tutorial programme builds community through

the themes of Personal and Social Responsibility and Planning for the Future.

These themes provide opportunities to reflect on Catholic social teaching and ways to promote the common good. Thought for the Week is a prayer that is designed to provide a point for reflection as well as educating in terms of gospel themes.

The core RE programme teaches students how to develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to think spiritually, ethically and theologically. It is a formal qualification which is assessed through portfolio work. It helps students to develop and be able to articulate their own faith positions and to reflect critically on the ultimate questions of life. It enables student to explore and respect different faith traditions within contemporary society and develop the skills required to engage in critical examination of and reflect upon religious belief and practice in our culture.

In our last inspection Ofsted said:

“Learners are self-assured and develop a strong sense of positive self-worth as a result of their time at Christ the King (they) develop high levels of tolerance and mutual respect because managers and staff encourage them to re-examine their viewpoints and to challenge effectively the stereotypical views of others.”

“Learners have a good understanding of how to succeed and thrive in a cosmopolitan and socially diverse community. Through their volunteering, peer mentoring and the contributions they make to running extra-curricular activities, learners make a lively and positive contribution that improves the quality of life at college and within their communities.”

“A strong culture of tolerance and mutual respect permeates daily life and learning at the college, and is central to the decision-making of leaders, managers and staff. Learners settle quickly into life at college and thrive in an atmosphere where they are able to develop their own understanding of life in a fast-changing world. They learn to recognise what their own positive contribution to society could be.”