



**St John the Baptist School**

**STUDENT CHARTER**

**September 2024**

## *Our School Mission Statement*

Our mission is to be a Catholic School where every individual is highly valued and where care and concern for others is central to our work.

All our students are expected to achieve their full potential and leave us ready to make a positive contribution to society.

At SJB, everything we do is guided by the Gospel Values.

Our aim at SJB is simple - we want to be the best school in the country! This means that we want all the children at SJB to receive a better education than they would if they went to any other school in England.

*We cannot achieve this without you!*

We ask that you to work in partnership with us. When we work as a team, we can truly work in the very best interests of your child. A positive partnership underpins a child's success, and we value the relationship we have with our parents and place a huge amount of importance upon it. Our partnership is richest when we nurture the growth of the individual, providing a setting where a child can learn, feel happy and secure and where the lines of communication between school and home are open.

Growing up in today's world is a challenge for our children. Our partnership will provide them with the boundaries, guidance and support that will enable them to flourish in a caring and safe environment.

The aim of our School Charter is to demonstrate how we can be most effective in this relationship as the children journey through seven years of education at SJB.

## *Have faith... believe you can!*

This is our motto and it's very important to us. As a community we believe that it is important to have faith in yourself, faith in others and faith in God. Having a "can do" attitude is really important; anything is possible if you believe you can! We work hard to instill a "can do" attitude in all our students and need you to do the same at home.

Throughout their time at SJB, with your support, our students will:

- Deepen their relationship with God
- Love learning
- Achieve their academic potential
- Have a wide range of experiences both in and out of the classroom
- Grow into happy, confident, resilient and articulate young people
- Leave SJB equipped to lead fulfilling lives and make a positive difference to society

## *Who we are*

We have five core values that we talk about and try to live all the time. These values are at the heart of what it means to be a SJB student, and we expect all staff and students to try their hardest every day to show them in all their words and actions.

### **RESPECT**

- We respect ourselves, each other, and our environment.
- We value our learning; we listen carefully and take pride in our work.
- We are considerate and polite at all times and always allow instructions.
- We value every person and celebrate diversity.

### **ASPIRE**

- We set high standards for ourselves; we are motivated and determined to succeed.
- We use our gifts and talents to inspire those around us; we celebrate our successes.
- We look forward to the future and are positive about what it holds.
- We try our best and never give up, especially when it's difficult.

### **INTEGRITY**

- We do the right thing when no one is looking.
- We are honest and always tell the truth.
- We are reliable and trustworthy.
- We have the courage to make good decision, even when it's hard.

### **LOVE**

- We are always kind in our words and our actions.
- We become better individuals, and build meaningful relationships through love.
- We love learning and embarking on new adventures; we seek opportunities that broaden our horizons.
- We love ourselves and believe in our own worth.

### **SERVICE**

- We inspire others by putting our faith into action.
- We make a positive contribution to people's lives by actively helping those in need.
- We represent the school with pride.
- We put the needs of others before our own.

## Parents...

**We want your child to be happy and successful at SJB. For this to happen, we must work in partnership.**

This is what you can expect of us:

- We will provide a happy and caring environment where your child can flourish.
- We will be unrelentingly positive.
- We will care about your child as an individual and always treat them with dignity and respect.
- We will make sure your child is valued and supported in every way.
- We will deliver outstanding teaching.
- We will do whatever it takes to ensure each student develops his/her full potential.
- We will provide excellent opportunities for developing young people's faith - this includes moral guidance.
- We will strive to live out the gospel values.
- We will celebrate achievement and always have high expectations.
- We will provide a diverse programme of enrichment and extra-curricular activity.
- We will provide excellent pastoral care for your child.
- We will give each student a Form Tutor who is there to support and guide him/her in life at school alongside their Head of Year.

- We will ensure you any concerns you are able to contact your child's Head of Year.
- We will ensure that where there is an issue it will be dealt with quickly and effectively.
- We will monitor your child's progress effectively.
- We will report to you each term on your child's progress.
- We will send home a newsletter each term and provide up-to-date information on school events.
- We will invite you to attend Parents' Evening to discuss your child's progress and targets in all subject areas.
- We will ensure that your child has access to the latest technology which will be used in their lessons.
- You are the expert on your child - we will listen to you!
- We will smile every day!

This is what we expect of you:

At Home:

- Encourage your child to recognise the importance of education and learning.
- Support the school ethos.
- Be relentlessly positive, promote a "can do" attitude and focus on success.
- See learning difficulties as areas for development rather than closed doors.
- Provide a time and space at home for independent learning.
- Respect staff, students and the learning environment.
- Monitor your child's independent learning, being as involved as you can; take all reasonable steps to ensure your child carries out any work set.
- Learn about your child's ability and have positive and realistic expectations.
- Be positive, encouraging and non-judgemental about your child's faith journey.
- Agree limits of time and content on mobile devices and television, and help your child to stick to them.
- Promote a learning-friendly lifestyle – make sure diet, sleep and exercise are appropriate for a growing learner!
- Make sure your child attends school every day, and is always on-time; never take holidays in term-time.



- Ensure your child wears the correct school uniform to every day; please check regularly that uniform fits correctly (the SJB school skirt should be touching their knees!)
- Ensure your child does not wear any extremes of fashion in clothing, footwear and hairstyle as these are not permitted. Hair should be of a natural colour and lines shaved into students' hair/ eyebrows are not allowed. Celebrating diversity is important to us and we acknowledge that certain hairstyles are an essential part of cultural, ethnic, racial, and religious identity.
- Ensure that your child does not wear make-up, jewellery or nail varnish to school. The only exceptions are a medical bracelet or one matching gold stud per ear lobe. In line with Surrey County Council guidelines no jewellery at all may be worn during PE lessons even if taped.
- Encourage your child to switch off their mobile phone and place it out of sight before they enter the school gates – students are not permitted to use a mobile phone anywhere on the school site.
- If there is a need for you to come into school, please report to Reception on **all** occasions.

In partnership with SJB:

- It is so important that we present a united front so please feel free to come in and disagree with us behind closed doors but always support us in the presence of your child.
- Be passionate about your child's education.
- Attend our programme of Parent Information Evenings.
- Tell us quickly about any issues concerning your child - we like learning about achievements as well as problems.
- Help us to understand your views by responding to questionnaires.
- Keep your contact details up-to-date so that we contact you in an emergency (this can be done through Arbor)
- Read our weekly bulletin to make sure you keep up-to-date with notices and upcoming events.
- Ask if you are unsure of anything.
- Join the SJB Club if you can as this helps us to provide your child with excellent learning resources.
- Join the SJB Apple iPad Scheme so that all children can benefit from having an iPad to support their learning.
- Trust us to do an excellent job and respect that we are experienced when it comes to education.
- Remember, we want to be the best school in the country! Tell us where we can make Improvements.





## *Students...*

### **We want you to be happy and successful at SJB.**

You can be sure you will:

- Be treated as an individual with dignity and respect at all times.
- Be made to work hard in every subject.
- Be expected to achieve better results than you would in any other school.
- Have good teachers every single lesson.
- Study a curriculum which meets your needs.
- Be listened to, and if you have concerns, they will be acted upon quickly.
- Get the best possible exam results.
- Have healthy food in the canteen.
- Have lots of opportunities for to take part in extra-curricular clubs.
- See the Gospel Values in action in our words and actions.
- Have opportunities in a non-judgemental environment to grow spiritually, physically, mentally and emotionally.
- Have lots of opportunities for school trips.
- Leave SJB equipped to lead fulfilling lives and make a positive difference to society
- Have lots of fun!

In exchange we ask you to:

- Be positive and have a “can do” attitude in everything you do.
- Try hard to live our five core values every day in all that you say and do (Respect, Aspire, Integrity, Love, Service)
- Do your best at school and with your homework.
- Follow the school rules and the instructions given to you by your teachers.
- Be kind and thoughtful in your words and actions; treat others as you would like to be treated.
- Come to school every day and get to your lessons on time.
- Take care of our learning environment.
- Join a club and get involved with something new!
- Ask when you need help.
- Talk to us if you see something that you feel is wrong.
- Smile!