

## Charities Policy

### **RATIONALE**

This policy is designed to support the college's strategic aims by encouraging students to develop independence, tolerance and partnership, by assisting students and staff to develop an understanding of the world outside school, to develop their talents and to develop respect for others.

### **AIMS**

- To promote students' and staff involvement in the local, national and international communities.
- To give students opportunities to show individual initiative.
- To give students opportunities to plan and carry out projects, individually or as members of a team.
- To encourage students to develop the habit of regular charitable giving.
- To raise money for a variety of local, national and international charities.
- To support charities in other ways, other than donating money.

### **PROCEDURES**

It is accepted that not all charities can be undertaken by the college and therefore only a small number of the many who approach the school can be catered for during the year. Constraints on the support given to charities are:

- Student safety must always be our first concern.
- We are a school and our students have very limited amounts of disposable money.
- The time needed to organise, run and evaluate charity events must not diminish teaching and learning.
- Charities must be worthy of the effort needed and support given by our students.
- Some events, such as flag selling, have a legal age restriction and this limits the number of students available to help take on the activity.
- All work / subscriptions given are voluntary and teachers like students must give freely of their support if the event is to be a success.

Local charities are given priority in the school. SVDP and The Foyle Hospice are our main focus as these are most likely to be familiar to the students and in many cases may at some time be helpful to both the students and their families. As a Catholic school we also support our national charity of Trocaire.

Money collected should always be sent directly to the office and a record kept of the date and sum deposited. Each organiser should be given a written note of this so as to up-date their records.

Any member of staff may volunteer to support any recognised charity, and if this is accepted on to the school calendar, they must take charge of that charity within the school. Events planned in support of that charity must be agreed by the SLT and a Risk Assessment carried out.

***No fund raising for a charity may be undertaken unless first agreed by the SLT Leadership Team.***

**This policy was last reviewed by the Charities Co-Ordinator: May 2019**

**Due to be Reviewed: January 2021**