



SECTION ONE

SCHOOL RESOURCES

STUDENT LESSON PLANS

LESSON ONE: Our School Values the Whole Person: Our Minds, Our Bodies and Our Souls

From the Aims of the *Catholic Preschool and Primary Religious Education Curriculum for Ireland*

Lessons for fifth/sixth classes with adaptable suggestions for use in special schools and classes.

Level 4

Strand: Christian Faith

- Develop respect for family and community values in other religions.

Strand: Word of God

- Understand how Sacred Scripture is taught and handed on in the living tradition of the Church.

Strand: Christian Morality

- Understand moral life as an expression and consequence of our relationship with God.
- Explore how Christians' relationship with Jesus, their beliefs and values affect their words and actions, as exemplified in their lives.
- Begin to incorporate moral ideals of conduct into their identity.
- Develop their understanding of factors that call for, influence and promote moral behaviour.

Teacher Notes

This lesson focuses on helping pupils to explore how their school values every child in the school and how our school tries to educate each child in body, mind and soul. In order to do this, you will need a copy of the school's schedule, which should be displayed in school, or alternatively you can use the adapted version below.

Introduction

Begin the lesson by exploring with the pupils that our school is a Catholic school.

Ask pupils what they think this means. What makes a Catholic school a Catholic school? How might we know our school is a Catholic school? How is that different from other schools? Record some of the responses and write them on the whiteboard.



General Guidelines for Special Classes/Schools

For children with greater needs, an appropriate starting point can be introducing a simple prayer at the beginning and end of each day as part of their daily schedule. A visual resource of a picture and the words to the prayer can be present to help achieve this. In doing this, the children see prayer as part of their daily routine. These lesson plans are suggestions, and the special class teacher can adjust, differentiate or add to these resources as they see fit.

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Development

Explore with the pupils that there is a description of what a Catholic school is. This is called the schedule of a Catholic school. This description is displayed in every Catholic school so everyone who comes into the school can see it. Show the document to the pupils in its original form or use the adapted version below.

Schedule of a Catholic School – Adapted

A Catholic school aims to promote the growth and development of every pupil. The school works to develop every pupil's mind, body and soul, including a relationship with God and with all other people. The school models a life based on the person of Jesus and teaches religious education and helps pupils form in the Catholic faith.

If using the original schedule, teachers may need to take some time to explore and unpack the language, but for the purposes of this lesson the key sentence in relation to Catholic schools is:

[A]ims at promoting the full and harmonious development of all aspects of the person of the pupil: intellectual, physical, cultural, moral and spiritual, including a living relationship with God and with other people.

Or, from the adapted version:

The school works to develop every pupil's mind, body and soul, including a relationship with God and with all other people.

The schedule tells us that Catholic schools develop pupils in mind, body and soul. Take each of these three words (on flash cards attached) and brainstorm with pupils how their school educates them in mind, in body and in soul. Create a list for display in the classroom.

Conclusion

To conclude the lesson, ask pupils how our school can help them develop more in mind, in body and in soul. Use the following questions as a starting point:

- Are everyone's talents and gifts recognised?
- Are pupils and parents from all faiths and world views welcome and cherished in our school?
- Do we follow the command of Jesus to love each other as he loved us? Do we care for those who are poor, work for justice, and act ethically?
- How can we make sure every pupil in our school can grow in mind, in body and in spirit?

Discuss with pupils that this list of suggestions can be fed into the overall CSP process.

MIND	BODY	SOUL



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SUGGESTIONS FOR LESSON ADAPTION

Special Education Guidelines

Strand: Christian Morality

- Have an awareness of belonging to a 'class' or to a 'group'.

Attending	Responding	Initiating
The child should be enabled to:	The child should be enabled to:	The child should be enabled to:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• participate in turn taking activities/games• become aware of rules in the school and community that may concern him/her	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• participate in activities that require everyone to give and share something• observe appropriate school and community rules	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• care for and cooperate with each other• independently observe community and school rules

Pupils Attending

Introduce the six picture flash cards to pupils. Support pupils in matching the six cards into pairs under the headings of mind, body and soul. Support pupils attending to an awareness that our Catholic schools help us to grow in mind, in body and in soul.

Pupils Responding

Introduce the three flash cards of mind, body and soul (in picture format). Talk about how our school is a Catholic school so every pupil is helped to grow in mind, in body and in soul. This is done in many different ways. Introduce the six category cards to pupils and allow them to take turns to match the different cards to either mind, body or soul.

Pupils Initiating

Introduce the three flash cards of mind, body and soul (in picture format or word format). Talk about how our school is a Catholic school so every pupil is helped to grow in mind, in body and in soul. This is done in many different ways. Introduce the six category cards to pupils and allow them to take turns to match the different cards to either mind, body or soul.

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