

## MISSION OF CHIJ SCHOOLS

A CHIJ School is a Christ-centred school community  
where all work together  
for the promotion of truth, justice, freedom and love,  
with special reference to the needs of persons  
who are disadvantaged in any way.

### Christ-centred Community

The CHIJ community rests on the central Christian belief of the worth and dignity of each person. It therefore demands a continuing effort by all in the development of an inclusive “community” anchored on the example of Christ as revealed in the Gospels. The driving force of this community is therefore inspirational. Children who join a CHIJ School are welcomed into a faith-based community where growth and formation flow from the Christian values that underpin the efforts of the school.

### Working Together

It is a collaborative, integrated relationship where all persons who form the school community give generously of themselves and receive likewise. It provides the element which encourages a harmonious atmosphere and provides that extra support in times of need.

### Promotion of Truth

It is an honest and genuine quest in the pursuit of knowledge; it is the art of guiding pupils to become critical thinkers by rejecting the trivial in order to focus on things that are worthwhile. It is the cultivation of an attitude that appreciates the value of learning, conveys the excitement that learning brings and fosters the desire for its pursuit. It is the application of resources in the stimulation of intellectual curiosity.

### Promotion of Justice

It is to be witness to the living out of justice in all school relationships and transactions to ensure that the conditions for learning are conducive to the development of every child fully according to her ability. It is to foster in the students  
a sense of fairness, a compassion for the weak and the less endowed, so that students too participate in each other’s growth and well-being.

## Promotion of Freedom

It is the 'freeing of oneself' from self-interest, from selfishness, from captive addiction to the shallow and inconsequential – so as to be free to make discerning choices and to reach out in sincerity and honesty to others. It is the cultivation of a personal disposition which will 'free oneself' to be of genuine service in the development and growth of others, particularly the less able and more vulnerable.

## Love

It is the all-embracing virtue which binds and integrates everything – the ultimate glue! It is the underlying inspiration that prompts students and the school community to rise above themselves and to reach out in compassion to the wider community.

St Paul - "Love is patient. Love is kind. Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs. Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not prone to anger, neither does it brood over injuries. Love does not rejoice in what is wrong, but rejoices with the truth. There is no limit to Love's forbearance, to its trust, its hope, its power to endure. Love never fails"

{St Paul's Letter to the Corinthians 13:4-8}

## With special reference to the needs of persons who are disadvantaged in any way

This requires a sensitive alertness to identify pupils who are not coping with school life and to offer or seek out the assistance that will help each better handle the situations which burden them.

This sensitive helping disposition is not meant to be restricted to the school situation but to be extended to the wider community, wherever one encounters the weak or the burdened.

# THE SCHOOL BADGE



## CHIJ SCHOOLS

6 Primary 4 Secondary 1 Full

Our aim is to provide a well-rounded education to all pupils by caring and concerned teachers in a Christian atmosphere conducive to learning and where each child's unique talents and potential are valued.

### History of the Badge:

This badge or crest was designed by Mother Saint Aloysia and the CHIJ senior students in 1894 in France incorporating into its concept and design, values and aspirations which they wished to be lived out in each CHIJ School. Their design is still proudly worn by thousands of CHIJ pupils in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. This badge is a symbol of the international unity binding together pupils from every continent, especially CHIJ pupils from Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Japan.

### [The Design of the CHIJ School Crest](#)

The red shield has a silver band edged in gold. On the right side of the shield is the Book of the Gospels with a silver rosary. On the left is a golden distaff and spindle. The shield surmounted by a gold cross is encircled by a garland of marguerites.

### The Significance of the Symbols:

**The Shield** – **RED** symbolizes the all-embracing message of love.

- On its right is the **open gospel**. This points to the source of inspiration which guides the whole school community. The silver rosary represents the story of the gospel as seen through the eyes of the Virgin Mary.
- On its left are the **distaff and spindle**. These are symbols of womanly labour, typical of an earlier period, which remind us of the dignity of work and the satisfaction and fulfillment to be found in a task well accomplished.
- **The cross** which surmounts the crest serves as a reminder that the source of our inspiration, dedication and fidelity comes from Christ.
- **The shield is encircled by a garland of marguerites**. These simple flowers are found by the wayside in France and are symbolic of the purity and simplicity which should characterise our relationships at every level.

## The CHIJ Motto

Simple Dans Ma Vertu, Forte Dans Mon Devoir (French version)  
Simple in Virtue, Steadfast in Duty (English version)

This motto is easy to remember but requires a lifetime of practice.

### Simple in Virtue

This translates into the cultivation of a personal honesty that frees us to relate to others with respect, openness and sincerity, and to become disinterested seekers of truth, wisdom and all that is good. It is the core from which we operate.

### Steadfast in Duty

This translates into the strength of character necessary to commit oneself to a goal. It embraces the capacity to rise above the difficulties and obstacles encountered in the execution and completion of any task or duty undertaken in the service of others.

As a Catholic Mission School, the term “virtue” in its spiritual sense is a distinctive character trait or quality inspired and nurtured by a genuine desire to live according to God’s will as revealed in the Gospel.

The term “duty” expresses our response to what we discern to be God’s call to us.

Love is therefore the underpinning of a life lived faithfully in the pursuit of these ideals.

# HOLD ON TO OUR DREAM

IJ Spirit burning bright  
Fill this world with love and light  
Light that shines for all to see  
Love that sets our spirits free

IJ friendships through the years  
Born of simple joys and tears  
Something tells us deep inside  
IJ friends are friends for life

## Refrain:

*Hold on to our dream of peace, don't stop believing  
Our hearts and hands ever seeking, ever serving  
Hold on to the sound of our friends all joyously singing  
Our voices raised to the Lord our God above  
Hold on to our dream  
(last refrain) Hold fast to the IJ Dream*

IJ Spirit burning bright  
Fill our hearts with love and light  
Light to see ourselves anew  
Love begins with me and you

IJ voices ringing true  
Reaching out and breaking through  
Every heart will hear our call  
Share our dream of peace for all

## Last refrain