God created all people and created them differently for reasons and purpose we may not understand. Regardless of how we perceive other people to be, they are God's creations, and it is God's will for us to show respect to everyone.

As God is creative, so we are committed to developing a creative environment for our pupils. God encourages people to reach their full potential, which includes both growing in wisdom and in their relationship with Him.

Psalm 127 tells us that "Children are a gift from the Lord" and we are to celebrate that gift. Proverbs 22:6 states: "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." Jesus says "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs.'

The stories of Samuel, David, Joseph and others show us how God can work within the hearts of young people to enable them to do good. Jesus was secure in the care of his earthly parents as he grew up in Nazareth. He grew in wisdom and stature.

## A couple of Bible extracts which describe a view of education and learning for a purpose:

And do not be conformed to this world [any longer with its superficial values and customs], but be transformed and progressively changed [as you mature spiritually] by the renewing of your mind [focusing on godly values and ethical attitudes], so that you may prove [for yourselves] what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect [in His plan and purpose for you]. Romans 12:2 (Amplified Bible)

Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning. Proverbs 9:9

### **Our School Vision**

Our inclusive church school aims to fulfil the potential of all. We work together to open minds and broaden horizons from the foundation of our shared Christian values. We pursue excellence through our inspiring and creative learning environment, and we empower every member of our community to seek positive transformation in the world.

# I can do everything through Him who gives me strength.

Philippians 4:13

### **Our School Values**

This is a deeply caring school community where Christian values are rooted firmly in biblical teaching so that all its members have the opportunity to fulfil their God-given potential.



Our mission statement is to

### Learn, Enjoy and Achieve

in a caring Christian community developing full potential and mutual respect for all.

### **Our School Aims**

# 1. To work in partnership with the home, the church and the community, to be supportive and treat all members with mutual respect, courtesy and good manners.

The idea of community comes from the sense of responsibility we have for each other. In the Bible, God encourages us to take care of our neighbours. We remember the importance of maintaining our relationships with those around us.

Don't just pretend to love others. Really love them. Hate what is wrong. Hold tightly to what is good. Love each other with genuine affection and take delight in honouring each other. Never be lazy but work hard and serve the Lord enthusiastically. Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble and keep on praying. When God's people are in need, be ready to help them. Always be eager to practice hospitality. Romans 12: 9 - 13

### 2. To be a caring Christian community that teaches and nurtures Christian values and welcomes children and families of all faith backgrounds and of none

Without exception, the children we spoke to said they feel school is a caring and safe place to be. We are committed to ensure that this continues, with each child feeling confident to express worries they have, and to feel confident in their uniqueness.

We who are strong have an obligation to bear with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Let each of us please his neighbour for his good, to build him up. Romans 15:1-2

# 3. To develop a wide range of skills throughout all areas of the curriculum developing each individual's sense of curiosity and their characters and talents to the full

All staff recognise that whatever they do is modelling behaviour and attitude to the pupils. Each member of the school community is committed to striving for excellence in all parts of school life, so that each child is enabled to reach their fullest potential, and does so with enthusiasm.

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ. Colossians 3:23-24

### 4. To provide a stimulating and attractive environment in which our children will be encouraged to develop positive attitudes to learning, independence and a sense of personal worth

We acknowledge our responsibility to do the best we can for the children in our care. We will use our God given creativity to develop and deliver a curriculum which fires imagination and encourages exploration to go deeper into a subject so that each pupil finds their place in the wider world.

Brothers and sisters, think about the things that are good and worthy of praise. Think about the things that are true and honourable and right and pure and beautiful and respected. Do what you learned and received from me, what I told you, and what you saw me do. And the God who gives peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8-9

## 5. To make school a safe and happy place where everyone feels valued and celebrates the achievements of others

We want all members of the school to have fun and enjoy the experience. We are committed to celebrating <u>all</u> achievements, big or small, of staff and students, whether inside or outside the school. We are reminded that God revels in the achievements of his children, and we seek to do the same.

The LORD your God among you is powerful. He will save and he will take joyful delight in you. In his love he will renew you with his love; he will celebrate with singing because of you. Zephaniah 3:17

#### 6. To nurture and extend the school's involvement with the local and wider community, valuing healthy lifestyles and the world in which we live to enable our pupils to be prepare for their futures.

The children are with us for a short time – they leave with a life still ahead of them. But within the school, they gain the foundations for that life to be lived. We are passionate about ensuring that they are excited to go and live.

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6