

“We warmly welcome each and every child to St Mary’s and have high aspirations for all our pupils.

Through love, we nurture a sense of purpose, a direction, a meaning of life.

Through respect, we celebrate that everyone is unique and special.

Through belonging, we commit to our families and communities so that together we can flourish.”

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What is a Church of England School?

“A community school with a distinctive Christian character.”

Long before the government became involved in providing education for everyone in our country, the Church of England had a vision that it wanted every parish to have a school for the education of poor children.

By 1900, there were 5700 state-funded schools and 14,000 schools funded by the Church of England.

Today, approximately a quarter of all primary schools have a Church of England foundation, through which they strive to provide the highest standard of education possible, in partnership with the state.



ST MARY'S BENTWORTH

Church of England Primary School

LOVE

“Do everything in love”-Corinthians
16:14

Love is a core value in our school because God the Father so loved the world that he sent his only son, Jesus, to show us how to care for each other. In 1 Corinthians 16, Paul tells us to do everything in love, just as Jesus did. Jesus proved his love for us when he died on the cross so that we can be forgiven.

Love means... Individuals feel:

- Safe
- You can make mistakes and take risks
- Happy
- Not alone
- Valued
- Part of something special

Relationships are:

- Meaningful
- Accepting
- Trusting
- Honest
- Robust—don't give up on people
- Loyal

The school community nurtures:

- The individual
- Supportive team players
- Excellence—striving to be the best together
- Valuing/appreciates unique talents
- The whole family
- Celebrates differences

RESPECT

“Do to others as you would have
them do to you” .
-Luke 6:31

Respect is a core value in our school because Jesus teaches us to respect everyone and everything. In many of his parables and teachings, like The Good Samaritan, Jesus shows us the importance of having respect for others. He teaches us that if we want people to respect us, we have to show respect to them too.

Respect means... Individuals feel:

- They have a voice and their opinion matters
- There is an honesty about problems
- Confident
- Able to listen to others even when they don't agree
- Belongings and property are cared for

Relationships are:

- Open to sharing ideas
- Non-threatening
- Good-humoured
- Supportive
- Confidential
- Reflective—think before we act/speak

The school community nurtures:

- Individual voices
- Aspirations
- Self-respect
- Self-belief
- Progress—every step towards a goal
- Respecting differences in culture in the broadest sense

BELONG

“Welcome one another as Christ has wel-
comed you, for the glory of God”
-Romans 15:7

Belong is a core value in our school because God encourages us to be welcoming to everyone. Romans 15:17 teaches us that God wants us to accept others in the deepest and fullest sense. We accept them with love, mercy, grace and forgiveness...just as Christ has accepted us.

Belonging means... Individuals feel:

- Passion for the community
- Pride in achievements
- They want the best for the team
- Accepted
- The need to support others with you when trying to achieve a goal

Relationships are:

- Like a family
- Loyal
- Trusting
- Courteous
- Understanding of different people and their needs
- Strong within a team
- Very safe and secure

The school community nurtures:

- The two way process
- Optimism
- Resilience
- Aspirations
- Welcoming atmosphere
- Loyalty
- Passion
- Pride