Mottram Church of England Primary School





Our Christian Values/Vision and Mission Theological Background

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Our Core Christian Values and Vision

Love, Compassion, Respect and Believe.

Through our Core Christian Values of Love, Compassion, Respect and Believe, we want to ensure our school is a joyful place for all. We want everyone to feel safe, happy and valued, where all are able to flourish by being themselves and showcasing their uniqueness. We aim to provide rich memorable learning experiences which build character and resilience in each individual child. Strong relationships underpin all we do where we value and respect each other. We provide the space for all to flourish and for all to be the best they can by believing. Our Christian ethos nurtures personal beliefs and the attitude that you can be the change in the world. "Everything is possible for one who believes" Mark 9:23.

Our Christian Vision encapsulates this.



At the heart of our small school is family. We believe that every child is unique and has the potential to change our communities for the better. We encourage children to show compassion for others and to embrace our Christian values and the love of Jesus.

Purpose

This document is designed to support governors, staff parents and children in embracing and embedding our Christian values, vision and mission throughout our school community. For each value, there is a description of what the value means, the theological background and appropriate biblical links. It also makes them personal to our school and community by giving tailored examples of how these values can be demonstrated each and every day, at school and at home.

Love



Love is a core Christian value for our school because in the Bible we learn that God is Love. God showed how much he loves us and how to love others, when he sent his son Jesus to live on Earth.

1 Corinthians 13:4–8a (ESV) Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth.

Our vision encapsulates love. Love of family, love of one another and the love of Jesus. The warmth and love you feel when you enter our school is something we pride ourselves on.

In our community, love forms the basis of all that we do. We share a love of learning, love for one another and love for the world that God made.

We show love to each other through small acts of kindness and through encouraging other with kind words, remembering that God loves and we can love ourselves and others. We will let our love shine every day.

What might love look like in our school?

Through whole school worship, class worship, relationships and discussion, we use Bible stories to provide examples of love and also explicitly give children examples of how children can show and recognise examples of love within our school. This includes saying prayers for others, showing love in our choice of words – such as saying please and thank you. Showing kindness to others without being asked. Knowing when to help and when to let others learn for themselves - Educating for wisdom (Church of England Vision for Education 2016).

Compassion



Compassion is caring about someone else's feelings and trying our best to understand how others might be feeling and offering to help that person.

Peter 3:8 Be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble.

Our vision for a better world places children at the heart of encouraging them to be the change. We want to enthuse our children to stand up for what they believe is right and make a difference. Within the school community through mini projects, in the local community through collecting for local foodbanks or an international level through our growing links with Katherine's Mercy Home Trust in South India.

What might compassion look like in our school?

Through whole school worship, class collective worship, relationships and discussion, we use Bible stories to provide examples of compassion and also explicitly give examples of how children can show and recognise examples of compassion within school. This includes our work around courageous advocacy and using inspirational people as to guide us to stand up for those who cannot stand up for themselves. Each week, one child from each class is celebrated for being a great role model for showing compassion and examples of how they have done this are shared with the whole school. "Teach children how they should live and they will remember it all their lives" Proverbs 22:6 – Educating for Community (Church of England Vision for Education 2016).

Respect



We are all different and we celebrate our uniqueness. We treat others as we would like to be treated.

Luke 6:31 -36, NIV 'Do to others as you would have them do to you'. The 'golden rule' is Matthew 7:12 'Treat others as you would want them to treat you'.

Respect is an important core value in our schools because it is the foundation stone of relationships within our schools and wider community. In our communities, we learn that God made us all different and unique. We learn to value ourselves, each other and the wider community through honesty, tolerance and trust, where everyone has an equal right to our care, time and attention as a reflection of God's love.

What might Respect look like in our school?

Through whole school worship, class worship, relationships and discussion, we use Bible stories to provide examples of respect and also explicitly give examples of how children can show and recognise examples of respect within our school. This includes recognising others in our prayers, listening to others when they are talking to us, valuing other ideas and understanding that others may have different opinions. Looking after school property and resources and thinking about how we talk to each other in respectful ways. We also incorporate No Outsiders into our Collective Worship Plans. No Outsiders is taught through a range of picture books that are selected carefully for each age group. The books allow children to reflect on diversity, equality and inclusion. These books and the message of No Outsiders is Everyone is Welcome and this reflects all our Christian Values – Educating for Respect (Church of England Vision for Education 2016).

Believe



Believing is the most powerful mindset that you can have.

Mark 9:23 Everything is possible for one who believes.

This is the Bible verse that guides us at Mottram in all we do and aspire to be.

Believing is an important core value in school because it can mean so many different things to different people. In our communities, we believe that we can make a difference. We learn to believe in ourselves and each other.

What might Believe look like in our school?

Through whole school worship, class worship, relationships and discussion, we use Bible stories to provide examples of how believing in God can guide us. We recognise that believing can mean different things to different people and we showcase this through our prayers, understanding that others may have different opinions.

'In John's Gospel, Jesus' signs are all signs of abundant life, such as healing, feeding, and raising the dead. And the first, archetypal sign is gallons and gallons of water turned into wine at the wedding at Cana (John 2:11). It is a sign that does what is necessary to save the day, and far more than is necessary. It was a quiet, untrumpeted sign, done for the common good of the host and guests, to celebrate one of the most universal social realities, coming together in marriage; and it seems that most of those present were not even aware that Jesus was responsible for it. Yet some, his disciples did have eyes to see it, and believed'.

Educating for Hope (Church of England Vision for Education 2016).

A place where everyone can be themselves, believe and succeed