St Mary's Church of England Primary School

We are a church school and place great emphasis on the promotion of Christian values. Christian values are taught explicitly through whole school, Key Stage and class Worship. The school's vision is underpinned by our Christian values.

Generosity

'God loves a cheerful giver.' 2 Corinthians 9:7

- **Christian Perspective** – God's generosity is best described as 'grace', love given freely without limit or condition. This generosity, once experienced and acknowledged by an individual, can in turn release a generous spirit towards others.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'Loaves and Fishes' Lion Bible for Children p. 259 / 'The Marvellous Picnic' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 78 (Matthew 14 / Mark 6 / Luke 9)
- **Key Language** – giving; unconditional; without reward; charity; actions; share; giving time/talents/spirit/support

Compassion

'Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.' Colossians 3:12

- **Christian Perspective** – Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'The Good Samaritan' Lion Bible for Children p. 268 / 'The Kind Stranger' Lion Storyteller Bible p.80 (Luke 10)
- **Key Language** – empathy; community; kindness; inclusion; mercy; charity; vulnerable

Justice

'Learn to do right. Seek justice.' Isaiah 1:17

- **Christian Perspective** – The justice seen in the Bible is always seen in the context of love. It includes the call to take responsibility for one another, especially the poor and oppressed, and to see that no-one is excluded from the essentials of life.
- **Key Bible Story –** 'The Blind Beggar' Lion Bible for Children p. 270 (Luke 18)
- **Key Language** – global justice; fairness; equality; courageous advocacy; neighbour; community; charity

Courage

'Be Strong and courageous; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.' Joshua 1:9

- **Christian Perspective** – Basic to Christian faith is the claim that God is always present in every situation. This belief has led to great acts of courage that have included facing danger and opposition, overcoming fear, making a stand for what is right and encouraging others to persevere. Through prayer people have found the strength to help them be courageous.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'David & Goliath' Lion Bible for Children p. 129 / 'David the Giant Killer' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 44 (1 Samuel 17)
- **Key Language** – strength; brave; overcome; fears; encourage

Our Christian Vision

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

Love – We show love and care for everyone.
Opportunity – Our inclusive love ensures that all children have opportunities to live life to the full.
Values – Our Christian values give children the character and strength to live well and make a difference.
Education –Through our inclusive, loving care, all children flourish.

Unconditional love underpins all we do at St Mary's Church of England Primary School. We value and embrace the individuality of every child as they discover, learn and flourish in a place of security and love.

Perseverance

'I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.' Philippians 4:13

- **Christian Perspective** – Jesus frequently encouraged his disciples to "endure patiently" the difficulties and obstacles they encountered and to persevere in the face of adversity. He himself trusted in God even when his enemies tried to stop his work and plotted his death.
- **Key Bible Story** – Noah – 'A Flood and a Rainbow' Lion Bible for Children p. 22 / 'A Special Promise' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 14 (Genesis 6-9)
- **Key Language** – resilience; keep going; stick at it; stickability; encourage; determined; motivated; effort; hard work; positivity; bouncing back; see it through

Forgiveness

'Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive others.' Colossians 3:13

- **Christian Perspective** – Forgiveness is the means by which damaged relationships are restored. It is an act of the will, motivated by love. For Christians, Jesus' death on a cross is the ultimate revelation of God's all forgiving love, and his sacrifice stands as a source of inspiration to forgive others, no matter what the cost.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'The Story of the Lost Son' Lion Bible for Children p. 250 / 'The Big Spender' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 94 (Luke 15)
- **Key Language** – mistakes; sorry; apology; acceptance; reconciliation; make amends; fresh start

Trust

'My God is my strength in whom I trust.' Psalm 18:2

- **Christian Perspective** – Trust is the basis of all stable relationships, including a person's relationship with God. It is rooted in truth, and will grow through consistent experiences of reliability and integrity. God's commitment to humanity is seen in his willingness to trust ordinary people with the carrying out of his purposes through history.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'The Storm on the Lake' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 74 (Mark 4:35-41)
- **Key Language** – relationship; friendship; responsible; reliable; role-model

Friendship

'Encourage one another and build each other up.' 1 Thessalonians 5:11

- **Christian Perspective** – Christians believe they can call God their friend because of the relationship made possible through Jesus.
- **Key Bible Story** – 'The Paralyzed Man' Lion Bible for Children p. 237 / 'Down Through the Roof' Lion Storyteller Bible p. 72 (Luke 5)
- **Key Language** – community; bond; friendship groups; loyal; trust; reconciliation; include; inclusion; serve; support; welcome.

SIAMS outstanding THE NATIONAL SOCIETY

Values taken from key collective worship resource: 'Roots and Fruits'

'Christian Perspective' taken from 'Values for Life'

St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

Thankfulness

'Always be thankful.' 1 Thessalonians 5:16

- **Christian Perspective** – Christians believe that God loves and cares for them in many different ways in all aspects of their life. They know that their response to this provision should be one of thankfulness and praise.
- **Key Bible Reference** – Psalm 8; Psalm 148 Lion Bible for Children pages 147 and 151
- **Key Language** – creation; gratitude; appreciation; gift; take for granted

Respect

'Do to others as you would have them do to you.' Matthew 7:12

- **Christian Perspective** – The nature of God, as revealed in the Bible, presents all people with a choice. Those whose response is one of respect are acknowledging God's greatness, authority and involvement in the world. This will extend to respect for the created order, including humanity made in the image of God. Reverence takes this a step further and will include aspects of worship such as awe and wonder, surrender and sacrifice.
- **Key Bible Reference** – 'Advice from James Lion Bible for Children p. 333 (James 2 'Warning Against Prejudice')
- **Key Language** – reverence; sacred; value; understanding; tolerance; equally; awe; wonder; special; prejudice; creation

Further Bible stories to support the school's Christian vision:

The Lost Sheep (Lion Bible for Children p. 248; Luke 15)
The Lost Coin (Lion Bible for Children p. 249; Luke 15)
Zachaeus the Tax Collector (Lion Bible for Children; Luke 19)
Parable of the Mustard Seed (Mark 4:30-32)
Jesus washes his Disciples' Feet (John 13:1-20)
The Big Party (Lion Storyteller Bible p. 88; Matthew 22 / Luke 14)
Jesus and the Children (Lion Storyteller Bible p. 98; Matthew 19 / Mark 10 / Luke 18)
Kind Dorcas (Lion Bible for Children p. 315; Acts 9)
The Widow's Mite (Mark 12:41-44 / Luke 21:1-4)