



Vision & Values

Claypole Church of England Primary School

Claypole Church of England Primary School
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Welcome

WELCOME TO CLAYPOLE CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



All schools have their own distinctive 'feel' which makes each one unique. We believe that the 'special feel' at Claypole Church of England Primary School is to do with our caring, friendly atmosphere. Our school continues to develop in many exciting ways, providing an even more enriching experience for our pupils. Claypole is a small, friendly and thriving village school in an attractive, rural location. This is a school where children and adults have fun, work hard and achieve our very best. We love sports, art and music and produce fantastic work. You will hear much laughter and see smiling faces when you visit us, but you will also see good quality work in every part of our school. Our children achieve excellent results and academic standards are very important to us. In 2023, our academic results were the best in the area (and 7th best in the entire county).

The school was last inspected by Ofsted in July 2023 with outstanding features reported such as: *'pupils are thriving at this happy, friendly school; the school's positive ethos is immediately apparent; staff have high expectations of pupils; and behaviour is exemplary.'*

I am extremely proud to lead a team that is committed to achieving high standards and providing the very best opportunities for the children in our care. Staff, supported by governors, work hard to deliver a rich and challenging curriculum; to prepare children for future education; and to help them acquire the skills and enthusiasm needed to pursue learning for the rest of their lives.

Martyn Wells
Head teacher

Sarah Fisher
Chair of Governors

About our school

OUR VISION



Believe and Achieve

We aim to be an inclusive, caring school where we give everyone the time and support needed to challenge and guide one another - to open minds and widen horizons - to work together towards the flourishing of all members of our school community so that everyone can fulfil their potential.

If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.
Matthew 21:22



Our Christian Values

Our Christian Values shine through in all we do at Claypole Church of England Primary School.

TRUST: We care about others showing gentleness, kindness, forgiveness and honesty in all our relationships. Trust is the very essence of faith; we rely of each other to be the best that we can be. We trust God and each other and know we help to keep ourselves and each other safe.

Psalms 37:3 "Trust in the Lord and do good."

PEACE: We show forgiveness and tolerance towards everyone so we get along together. In moments of reflection we hope for peace for all.

Romans 12:18 "If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone."

CONTENTMENT: We pray to show our thanks to God and the people around us.

Ephesians 4:32 "Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you."

JUSTICE: We believe in fairness. We know everyone in our school is important and has the right to be treated equally.

Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

RESPECT: We respect others from all cultures and religions. We learn about others to allow our respect to grow. We listen and learn from others.

Matthew 7:12 "So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you."

KOINONIA: We believe quality relationships and partnerships are a central element of interdependence: all are needed and valued and each person is important to the whole. In John 17, Jesus prays that all his followers may be 'perfectly one' as he and the Father are one.

Corinthians 12:12-13 The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body ...

ENDURANCE: We know sometimes things can be difficult but we keep on going and with God's help we don't give up.

James 1:12 "Blessed are those that endureth..."

Promoting British Values

Our Collective Worship promote various British values including democracy (local, national and international), the rule of law, mutual respect, individual liberty and tolerance of different faiths and cultures. This includes national and internationally celebrated religious events and notable national days and events. We also recognise and celebrate such events as the 800 years since the signing of the Magna Carta, e-safety, anti-bullying and celebrating the Queen’s longest reign.

Our Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship at Claypole Church of England Primary School reflect our religious and cultural learning, our Christian Values, our ethos and our school rules. We also focus on ‘what it means to be British’ through recognition and celebration of fundamental British values. We are also very lucky to have our local rector join us and other visitors from the church community to help deliver our Collective Worship.



Children writing prayers for Collective Worship

HALF TERM 1 CHRISTIAN VALUES LOVE & PEACE		MAJOR CHRISTIAN FESTIVALS		MAJOR SAINTS DAYS		AUTUMN TERM 1		FESTIVAL DATES OF OTHER FAITHS		OTHER ANNIVERSARIES & KEY DATES	
September	28th (Michaelmas)	September	1st (Sept 1st)	September	8th (St. Vincent)	September	1st (Sept 1st)	September	8th (St. Vincent)	September	8th (St. Vincent)
October	1st (All Saints)	October	1st (All Saints)	October	1st (All Saints)	October	1st (All Saints)	October	1st (All Saints)	October	1st (All Saints)
November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)
December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)

HALF TERM 2 CHRISTIAN VALUES RESPECT		MAJOR CHRISTIAN FESTIVALS		MAJOR SAINTS DAYS		AUTUMN TERM 2		FESTIVAL DATES OF OTHER FAITHS		OTHER ANNIVERSARIES & KEY DATES	
November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)	November	1st (All Saints)
December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)	December	1st (All Saints)
January	1st (All Saints)	January	1st (All Saints)	January	1st (All Saints)	January	1st (All Saints)	January	1st (All Saints)	January	1st (All Saints)
February	1st (All Saints)	February	1st (All Saints)	February	1st (All Saints)	February	1st (All Saints)	February	1st (All Saints)	February	1st (All Saints)

THE VISION AND VALUES OF THE SCHOOL EXPLAINED

“If you believe, you will receive whatever you ask for in prayer.” Matthew 21:22

We aim to be an **inclusive, caring** school where we give everyone the **time and support** needed to **challenge and guide** one another – to **open minds and widen horizons** – to work together towards the **flourishing** of all members of our school community so that everyone can **fulfil their potential**.

Theologically Speaking...

We believe that God created and sustains the world (Genesis 1-2). We believe that all are created in the image of God (Genesis 1.26-27). In educational terms therefore this means that we are an inclusive and caring school where we give everyone the time and support needed to flourish. It is our aim to open minds & widen horizons and teach our children about:

· Our wonderful world;

· Human impact & influence;

because the world was here before us and we change it - every day (for better or worse).

As a Church of England school, we believe in serving our community based on the love of God for everyone (John 10:27). This means that we are an inclusive school who welcomes all. In doing this we draw heavily upon Jesus' teaching from John 15.12 where Jesus commands that we love as he has loved. In the life of our school it also means that we treat everyone fairly and offer equal opportunities with diversity and uniqueness celebrated without discrimination. Our SEND and Inclusion report is [here](#).

With time for deeper 'seeing' of the world around them comes quality engagement and subsequently the desire to write & respond, practising core skills that are embedded into our work.

We believe that all children no matter where they live or where they're from deserve a chance to achieve, a chance to succeed and to be given another chance. This matches our mission statement: *'Believe and Achieve (To Be The Best That We Can Be).'* We work at Claypole Church of England Primary because we want to make a difference to the lives of the children in our school.

Our mission statement is based on Jesus' promise in Matthew 21:22, *"If you believe you will receive, whatever you ask for in prayer"* and reinforced by Matthew 17:20, *"If you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you"* - a metaphor for the power that faith has in being able to overcome adversity, challenge and difficult times: in a word 'resiliency' (one of our Christian Values). In the life of our school this means that we teach children to be resilient and to have a positive growth mind-set.

There is an underpinned of the belief that all are precious to God and created in God's image: this is expressed in our policies & practices, our Christian Values and the relationships & outcomes across the school.

We believe and achieve in all that we do supported by our Christian values. If we have faith/belief in ourselves and our community, then God will guide us to be the best that we can be and we will achieve. This achievement will mean that we lead the 'best life' we can (inspired by the seven 'I am' statements of Jesus) and develop the Christian understanding of being part of the kingdom of God now and forever.

What do we want for every child?

- ✓ To leave this school with a lifelong love of learning.
- ✓ To want to know “Why”- to be curious as to how the world works.
- ✓ To know what the world looks like & where things are.
- ✓ To know why things happen.
- ✓ To know why we are who we are.
- ✓ To be confident enough to grab opportunities if they come their way – not to be scared to have a go and fail.
- ✓ To leave school having found their talent.

We want them to look at the world and be thrilled by it: to see its beauty and feel its power. We want to give children an opportunity in life to achieve their potential and to have a love of learning. We believe that a child has more than one chance in life – by giving them that love of learning, an enquiring mind, awe and wonder... then they can achieve.

This is in keeping with the Church of England Vision for Education: *‘enabling children and our community to flourish as they experience our education for wisdom, hope, community and dignity’* preparing the children to use their gifts and abilities effectively beyond our school.

How can we give children a love of learning?

- ✓ An exciting curriculum that inspires children and drives aspiration;
- ✓ Quality, inspirational teaching;
- ✓ Teaching that challenges them and pushes them;
- ✓ Teachers that don’t make up excuses for them;

All in an environment that is inclusive, caring, challenging but fair, compassionate and forgiving, and where everyone is treated with respect.

We strive to provide a stimulating and challenging learning environment. We believe that our holistic approach to developing children academically, spiritually and personally provides every opportunity for each pupil to achieve their full potential.

High expectations and high-quality learning experiences based on individual needs enable every child to feel valued and to be and do their best. We believe that we are distinctive in seeking excellence through our creative, interactive and exciting curriculum within our caring Christian values & vision and our community.

Our values and ethos are at the core of everything we do. They underpin our teaching and learning, and provide an environment which prepares our pupils as confident, happy citizens.

Be.Human.Kind (Spirituality)

Our Shared Understanding of Spirituality

Spirituality is the process of awakening from ordinary consciousness; expanding the mind beyond its limitations, thoughts and viewpoints about life and the universe.

It is the process of making the mind free from fears, worries and non-stop thinking; experiencing inner peace & bliss in our everyday life. It’s about making peace with the universe and accepting our reality;

trying to live in harmony; training oneself to be less reactive to the events happening in our lives by freeing ourselves from the 'monkey mind.'

"Music is the space between the notes." Claude Debussy.

Therefore...

Our Rationale

It is important for our children to understand what it means to be human & how human behaviour has and can shape the world. To know and appreciate their role as part of a community; to take responsibility; to be able to look after themselves & to foster an understanding of their importance, impact and influence in the world.

It is our ambition to prepare our children for their future in this world; to develop knowledge of observation, scrutiny, questioning, comparison and contrast, reflection & evaluation and knowledge of relationships: relationships with oneself, others, the world and beyond.

'We are spiritual beings having a human experience.' Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Our 'Learning Wheel' supports children to develop a deeper understanding of these concepts. As a consequence their knowledge can develop beyond a shallow level of learning.

By developing the right dispositions for learning, a focus on knowledge, a desire for asking questions and the importance of human connection, children are given a solid foundation for 'sticky' knowledge which can be transferred across different subject areas during their learning journey with us.

Spirituality enables our children to thrive, be happy & succeed so that they can fulfil their potential.

Be.Human.Kind is at the heart of our behaviour policy which promotes the perpetual generosity of spirit and deliberate 'botheredness' (*valuing effort; recognising embodied values; daily acts of care; noticing the unnoticed; the interest shown in other's lives – visible consistency & visible kindness where expectations are clearly mapped out*).

Our Christian vision is lived out in:

- How we treat each other;
- Informed decision making;
- Our curriculum; and additional activities & opportunities;
- R-Time (inc. metaphysical questions)
- Standards (attainment and progress);
- Impact of Collective Worship;
- Guided meditation;
- Character/personal development, including spiritual development and courageous advocacy;
- Impact of our Christian Values;
- Policies, principles and practice;
- Approaches to British Values;
- Growth mind-set;
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation;
- Partnerships;
- Community;
- Our approach to 'service;'

In our most recent Ofsted inspection (July 2023), it was noted that:

- 'Pupils are thriving at this happy, friendly school'
- 'The school's positive ethos is immediately apparent'
- 'Staff have high expectations of pupils'
- 'Pupils' behaviour is exemplary'

I am extremely proud to lead a team that is committed to achieving high standards and providing the very best opportunities for the children in our care. Staff, supported by governors, work hard to deliver a rich and challenging curriculum; to prepare children for future education; to help them acquire the skills and enthusiasm needed to pursue learning for the rest of their lives; to encourage children to develop their sense of identity and belonging; to enable them to flourish individually and help children to develop respect for and sensitivity to others – in a loving community that spiritually and academically equips, challenges & inspires children to impact their world.

Martyn Wells

