

# Who We Are, Why We Are Here, How Then Do We Live?

This is our **Ethos statement**, the vision is the narrative that sits behind this, followed by **who we are, why we are here and how we then live:**

**“We are all wonderfully made by God, and loved by Him just as we are.” Psalm 139:14**

**Jesus Christ stands at the centre of everything that we do.**

**“We will work together to follow His example and seek to be the best people we can be.” Ephesians 4:16**

**We understand the infinite knowledge, presence and power of God in all of us and we work in school to strive to be the best that we can.**

## Who we are? (Our vision)

We are one of the oldest schools in Hull, founded by Alderman Cogan in 1753 and originally opened in 1755 to educate and clothe the poor.

Our school is a special place, a safe place, a place of learning, a place of nurture and of exploration where we demonstrate and promote openness and acceptance, tolerance and forgiveness.

We are a proud church school, with a caring Christian community where positive relationships and partnerships develop which strongly reflects our unique Christian distinctiveness.

We pride ourselves on the broad, balanced and full education we provide, and the high standard of teaching and learning. We enjoy working closely together with families and the wider community and our church St. Aidans, in order to develop a positive and meaningful partnership where we can help to serve our community to the best of our abilities.

## Why we are here?

We are here to continue to educate all children to ensure that all children receive the opportunity to understand the fundamental truths of the Christian faith as taught by the scriptures, enabling them to be fully equipped as lifelong learners made in the image of God.

We are here to ensure that children and adults appreciate and experience their value as God's image bearers, precious and significant in His Sight.

We are here to ensure that our God given talents and gifts are used for the service of each other, the school, the wider community and the Glory of God.

Our Church School ensures all of these things and develops a distinctive Christian character through learning, religious education, prayer, worship and action in the name of Christ that makes God's love and presence known to the world.

### **How then do we live?**

We then live life through our values and beliefs which are distilled and lived out in our day to day lives in school and in our wider school community. Our values of **Peace, Trust and Friendship** drive our ethos statement, which is memorable for all children and adults. This ethos statement is displayed throughout the school, on children's books, celebration postcards and is referred to regularly in our acts of daily worship. There are two key elements to our ethos statement; our beliefs of **who we're working with** and how, with Jesus as our example,

#### **We work together.**

- We are all 'wonderfully made' by God, and loved by Him just as we are - Psalm 139: 14.
- We will work together to follow His example and seek to be the best people we can be - Ephesians 4: 16.

### **Who we're working with (We are all 'wonderfully made' by God and loved by Him just as we are):**

- Everyone will be given the opportunity to experience success, to fulfil potential in all areas of school life, (not just academically, but also spiritually, physically, & socially), and aim for effective outcomes to realistic goals. As a Church School, it is essential to provide each of our children with the opportunity to develop spiritually, intellectually, physically and socially. This helps us to continue to develop a caring ethos where staff and children can experience tolerance, justice and a sense of self worth, ultimately leading to children who respect themselves, others and their environment.
- Our environment will be stimulating and one of which we will be proud.
- We will use available resources to the best of our ability
- Children will be expected to be self-motivated, self-disciplined and proud of their achievements in their own right, developing lively, enquiring, imaginative minds, with the ability to think and question rationally.
- Staff will be expected to raise achievement and behavioural standards by example and intervention.
- Governors will be known to all individual members of staff and be supportive and actively involved.
- Parents will feel listened to and valued.
- There will be a close liaison between the school and church.

### **How we work together (We will work together to follow His example and seek to be the best people we can be):**

- We will be open, honest and restorative.
- Teaching and learning will be a positive experience, meeting the requirements of the National Curriculum and resulting in a high quality of education for all.
- We expect children to have sound friendships and be able to socialise with confidence, appreciating the value of others and understanding and respecting each other's cultures. They should have a caring attitude towards the world in which we live and its resources and people.
- We expect staff to be realistic about time management of self and others and be open, honest, sensitive, positive, approachable and have a sense of humour. They should have global perspectives of the needs of the whole school and work as a team.
- Governors are expected to assist in running the school effectively for the well-being of children and staff and be representative of the wider community, bringing with them a variety of expertise and experiences.
- Parents will feel that they are kept informed of wider educational issues as well as matters involving their own child.
- We hope that staff are kept informed of relevant home issues and that parents will recognise the need to devote time and resources to their child's education.
- There will be close liaison between the school and other education providers and regular contact, where appropriate, with the wider community, to enhance children's understanding of the world at large.

## What does our school family say?

Children		
<p><b><u>Who we are?</u></b></p> <p>We are a Church school.</p> <p>We are Christians and non Christians.</p> <p>We are a big primary school with two classes in each year group.</p> <p>We are happy and we are listened to.</p> <p>We are all wonderfully made</p>	<p><b><u>Why we are here?</u></b></p> <p>We are here to learn.</p> <p>We are here to be the best we can be.</p> <p>We are here to learn skills that will help us throughout our lives.</p> <p>We are here to have fun.</p> <p>We are here to help us learn</p> <p>We are here to learn about God and what he has taught us.</p> <p>We are here to learn how to get along with one another.</p>	<p><b><u>How do we live?</u></b></p> <p>We live with peace, trust and friendship</p> <p>We live in the same community, where we are all loved by God.</p> <p>We live by our school rules and by listening to what Jesus said.</p> <p>We live by understanding how people are all different with different ideas.</p> <p>We live by looking after our environment.,</p>
Staff		
<p><b><u>Who we are?</u></b></p> <p>We are passionate about helping young people realise and achieve their potential.</p> <p>We are good listeners, good friends and good fun!</p> <p>We embrace individuality and diversity.</p> <p>We are part of like-minded community with a common goal- to make a difference.</p> <p>We are a family.</p> <p>We are a place of support for parents, families and caregivers.</p> <p>We are a safe place.</p>	<p><b><u>Why we are here</u></b></p> <p>To support each other.</p> <p>To embrace the Christian faith, learn from it and use it to develop our ethos.</p> <p>We are role models.</p> <p>We are listening ears.</p> <p>We offer an opportunity for everyone in our school to worship, celebrate, reflect and encounter God.</p> <p>To establish boundaries and provide guidance.</p>	<p><b><u>How then do we live?</u></b></p> <p>By our school ethos statement</p> <p>By opening our doors and arms to our community.</p> <p>By engaging and reaching out to those who need us.</p> <p>By the values of peace, trust and friendship.</p> <p>By looking after our environment that we all share and helping our children realise this too.</p> <p>By looking out for others, nurturing, respecting, protecting and keeping striving to keep people safe.</p> <p>By embracing our children's ideas and initiatives to do 'good' for the world.</p>
Governors		
<p><b><u>Who we are?</u></b></p> <p>A supportive and advisory bdy of christians and non christians who follow the 7 principles of public life - selflessness, integrity,</p>	<p><b><u>Why we are here</u></b></p> <p>To support the school, its leaders, pupils &amp; community and to ensure that the school's</p>	<p><b><u>How do we live?</u></b></p> <p>By the values of peace, friendship and trust.</p>

<p>objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty &amp; leadership.</p>	<p>christian values and ethos are upheld.</p> <p>To oversee financial performance and to hold the Headteacher to account over educational performance.</p> <p>To contribute to planning the school's christian strategic direction.</p>	<p>By the Governor Code of Conduct.</p> <p>By the teachings in biblical scripture and in the traditions and formularies of the Church of England.</p>
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