

# **Core Values**

Through our core values, our aim is to help all our learners recognise Christ in themselves and in others, and in this way be the body of Christ in the world<sup>1</sup>. At St Mary's, our curriculum is underpinned by these core values and based around our Mission Statement.

These values are present in us all, as they are in Jesus. They encourage us to celebrate God's presence in all our lives, and respond in both thought and action.

## **Spirituality:**

As children of God, we are all spiritual, and we aim to foster his understanding in our learners. We believe that learning at St Mary's, is a spiritual quest for all our children. We provide opportunities each day to nurture their relationship with God as we support them on their journey of faith. We encourage this through prayer, love and an awe of God and the world he created.

#### **Creativity:**

We encourage our learners at St Mary's to take risks in ideas and their work. Our learners are given opportunities throughout the curriculum to explore and develop their creativity. Thought and discussion are encouraged, and all our children's contributions are valued.

'God saw all that He had made, and it was very good' (Genesis 1:31)

### **Co-operation:**

Our learners are encouraged to work, learn and play together, with many opportunities throughout the year to play an active role in the school and the wider community. Jesus showed the beauty of co- operation when he helped others and fed the five thousand. (John 6: 1-14)

'I am the vine and you are the branches' (John 15:5)

### **Tolerance:**

By encouraging our learners to be patient and understanding towards each other we are sharing in God's love. Our children recognise the importance of forgiving and asking for forgiveness. Jesus explained the virtue of tolerance in the parable of The Good Samaritan. (Luke 10: 25-37)

'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing' (Luke 23:34)

### Independence:

We encourage our children to act and think for themselves with confidence. We strive to create and develop reflective learners, who are not afraid to make mistakes and move their learning on.

'For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened' (Matthew 7:8)