

Living and Learning with God by our side.

Whittington CE Primary School

Living

'Life in all its fullness' John 10:10

You only get one chance at childhood. Most adults look back on their time as a child as the best years of their lives; never perfect, plenty of flaws, and undoubtedly shaping the adults that we are yet to become. Character is built through experience during these formative years.

A school's success is often measured by the outcomes that they deliver for children, in a restrictive range of areas, but what constitutes a successful primary education is not so easily measured. If a child leaves our school exceeding the expected academic standard, but celebrating the day that they leave having not enjoyed their time, is this success? If a child leaves school below the expected academic standard, but has a passion for learning, and a multitude of memories that will influence their life choices, have we failed?

In a system in which education is all too easily measured by numbers, we must not forget that behind every statistic there sits a real young person who is more complex, interesting and glorious than the numbers could ever tell us. In a system in which learning objectives and success criteria often usurp real learning, some things are worth doing simply because they are fun, and children might even learn something along the way.

Learning

'Lead me in truth and teach me' Psalm 25:5

At Whittington CE (VA) Primary School we believe in making children world-class learners, developing in them a confidence and thirst for knowledge that enables them to realise their talents and create their own futures. Children leave our school with an appreciation of the diverse range of intelligences that are needed for our society to function. They are prepared for the wider-world because they know what to do when faced with challenge; better than that, they embrace it.

In our school community we constantly challenge and develop our own understanding of effective learning. We spend a lot of time getting to know ourselves and what works for our children. If something works, we do more of it; if it doesn't, we change it. We provide our children with an inspirational curriculum that lights a fire inside of them. Our curriculum is experiential and creates life-long and treasured memories. Our curriculum is supported with curricular and extra-curricular enrichment that is innovative and purposeful. We pride ourselves on the opportunities that we provide for our children and unapologetically have the highest standards of our school community.

God by Our Side

'I am with you always' Matthew 28:20

The way that we work is underpinned by our grounded in the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and is guided by our core Christian values; these are the principles that drive our behaviour. To us, 'God by Our Side' is a reminder that a conceptualisation of the highest good, as God's children, is with us in all that we do. Our Christian vision guides us in our interactions and the decisions that we make every day. Our values, centred by our 'keystone' value of Love (we treat others as we would want to be treated, in the way of Jesus Christ) are at the heart of our school community. We are proud servants of our church school and the Christian ethos that it is built upon.

Love – we treat others as we would want to be treated, in the way of Jesus Christ. 'Love is patient, love is kind.' (Corinthians)
Honesty – we are truthful, with a strong moral principle 'Blessed are the pure in heart.' (Matthew)
Courage – we embrace new and challenging experiences 'Be courageous; be strong.' (Corinthians)
Quality – we try our best in all that we do 'Let's not get tired of doing what is good' (Galatians)
Community - we help each other to learn 'And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds' (Hebrews)