



St. Michael's Church School

SECTION 5:Dignity & Respect

Introduction

'Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but actions and in truth' 1 John 3:18

At St Michael's Church School, we believe all children should be treated with respect, dignity and valued as God's children. We keep children safe and protected and work hard to ensure all children feel this during their time with us in school.

In 2019, we were awarded the IQM (Inclusion Quality Mark) which recognised our excellence in our efforts to support all children and staff within our school and how we reduce the barriers to learning and opportunity.

At St Michael's, we have a responsibility to help children to learn that we are created in God's image and encourage them to feel safe to express their views with mutual respect, regardless of their faith, gender, race, sexuality ethnicity, disabilities, nationality or background. We do not accept any prejudicial behaviour through actions or words and during our 'Anti-bullying weeks' we discuss with children ways to break down barriers, take the lead in challenging negativity and valuing differences. We encourage and support children to make positive and meaningful friendships and relationships with each other and staff so they feel comfortable to talk to others should they need help.

At St Michael's, through our PSHE teaching, children are taught how to be comfortable and accepting of the person they are, who they want to become and how they want to live. This is supported through our SRE scheme and policy.





Anti-Bullying Week

'I will praise You because I have been fearfully and wonderfully made'. Psalm 139

Anti Bullying Week in our school is co-ordinated with the Anti Bullying Alliance. Every November we will follow the guidance set in place by the Alliance and focus a week on ways to make our school a great place to be and ways to get help if needed.

In November 2020, the whole school wore 'Odd Socks' to embrace that we are all individual, unique and 'wonderfully made' (Psalm 139). This will be repeated in November 2021.

Below you will find samples of work created by our incredible Year 6 children.

This piece of work focuses on the negative words people say and how they make you feel on the inside and look on the outside.

This piece focuses on how we can hide our feelings and despite people asking lots of questions we will often say 'I am fine' even though we feel very different.

This piece shows the darker side of life in comparison to the lighter. It shows how damaging words can be and the darkness it can lead to, in comparison to the positive, kind, lighter side.

Below is a small example of the zig zag books the children created during Anti-Bullying week. Every child contributed something positive about them or their life on the triangles and these were then folded up to keep together, united in a book. The work was so incredible we had to display them in school - remembering 'In a world where you can be anything, be kind' (Caroline Flack).

Black Lives Matter Movement

At St Michael's Church School, we believe everybody matters and we are all children of God. However, in response to the media and events during 2021, we decided we needed to look into the Black Lives Matter Movement and Black History Month as a school. We took the opportunity to learn about famous people in the past whom have overcome adversity due to the colour of their skin or their background. One of our children wrote a poem in response to the Black Lives Matter Movement:

#blacklivesmatter

Can somebody help me I don't understand

Why are they killing an innocent man

I never really knew they did this before

Ordinary people being shot to the floor

Mum had to explain what this was about

Some people hate colour is what I found out

How did this start I ask every night?

400 years of this kind of fight

Why does it matter the colour of your skin?

I need some answers, who made it begin

This needs to stop, we end this soon

We cannot let racism resume

The protesters are there just look at the crowd

All humans together we stand up proud

Police should protect not hurt and kill

Black lives matter and they always will



Enrichment Days

At St Michael's Church School, we believe it is important to 'hook' children in their learning and allow them to learn through multisensory approaches. At least three times a year, the children will have the opportunity to embrace a day of special learning to focus on RE and PSHE. These days are themed and focus on developing our children's religious and personal development.

The themes we have enjoyed include: Festivals of Light, Global Neighbours, Celebrating Cultures, Creationism, Spirited Arts entry and Big Questions.

Below is an example of the exciting opportunities and learning experienced during these special days.



***Year 3 - Hanukkah
Festivals of Light
RE Enrichment Day***



***Year 2 - Diwali
Festivals of Light
RE Enrichment Day***



PIC•COLLAGE



Enrichment Day
Celebrating Cultures In Our School



PIC•COLLAGE



Enrichment: Creationism



Positive Relationships

"I will praise You because I have been fearfully and wonderfully made" Psalm 139: 13-14

At St Michael's Church School, we pride ourselves on developing and maintaining positive relationships with the children in our care.

We know and value that every child is unique and has individual needs.

We deeply believe in Forgiveness and Reconciliation so if a child has one bad day, tomorrow is a new day, a fresh start and a chance to embrace something new.

As a school, all staff have been trained in Early Brain Development, Attachment and STEPs which means we are working from a positive mindset when dealing with behaviour and forging relationships with each other and children.

Pupil Voice

We asked our children what they think about our school, here are their responses:

How do we look after each other?

"We are loyal to our friends"

"We help to keep each other safe"

"We are kind to one another"

"We are taught to be good Christians"

"We make great friendships"

"We show respect to each other"

How do we look after each other?

"We are loyal to our friends"

"We help to keep each other safe"

"We are kind to one another"

"We are taught to be good Christians"

"We make great friendships"

"We show respect to each other"

What is great about our school?

"We have great friends at school"

"The teachers are lovely"

"Our teachers make learning fun!"

"I love our Collective Worship time together"

"Learning with our fabulous teachers"

"Having challenging learning"

How is school like a church family?

"We are kind to each other"

"We are taught about Christians and how to be kind to one another"

What do you hope for your future?

"Our school teaches us to be kind to others."

"Our school teaches us how to work with others and gives us a good education."

"Our school helps us to know what to do in different situations"

"Gives us hope that we can do the best we can in our learning"

"St Michaels helps us to learn how to look after each other"