

St Teresa's Catholic Primary School

L.O.V.E. @

Living
Our
Values
Everyday



St Teresa's Catholic primary school has been serving the Parish of St. Teresa's since 1931, when it was built as an *all-in* school for children from 5-13 years of age. Back then, the school was known as the 'Holy Family'. The arrival of St Teresa's church in 1937, as well as educational change, eventually led to the school becoming the primary school as we know it today.

St Thérèse of Lisieux, our school's patron saint, devoted her life to the person of Christ. She looked for ways to share God's love with all of those around her. Our school motto '**Love Proves Itself by Deeds**' underpins all that we do in school and reminds us of the importance of being active in demonstrating our faith towards one another.

The school has a very clear set of values **Love, Trust,**

Teamwork and Ambition that permeate through all areas of our school. We have committed ourselves to Living Our Values Everyday—**L.O.V.E.** This message gives you an insight into the social, spiritual and moral character of our school.

Thank you for taking the time to read on. We are looking forward to meeting you!

Justin Dachtler -
Headteacher

'St Teresa's is a warm and welcoming school providing an outstanding Catholic education'
— Diocesan OFSTED inspection, March 2017



Love

Trust

Teamwork

Ambition

Our Values Through Deeds

Each of our values opens a door to the person of Jesus Christ. They lead us on our journey of faith and the Eucharist is the 'source and summit' of all we need.

Love

Love is shown through our deeds and is at the heart of our school character.

We follow the example of St Thérèse of Lisieux, who taught us to do 'ordinary things with extraordinary love'.

Relationships across the school are built on mutual trust.

We believe that parents are the first educators of their children. The school is committed to ensuring that parents are appropriately supported.

Staff selection is based on the values of our school. They are supported through training, mentoring and coaching to carry out their mission effectively.

Trust

Teamwork

Collaboration is an essential ingredient to continued success.

We work with a number of schools, including those in the Merton Catholic Deanery, to ensure that we maintain the capacity to innovate and lead change. This enables St Teresa's to be an outstanding and flourishing centre of learning for all.

St Teresa's is a first choice school.

Parents, staff and governors are focussed on ensuring that every child is ambitious and achieves their best regardless of their starting point.

Academic outcomes are very strong in all areas of the school. Children consistently make progress over time that exceeds national and local averages. They continue to excel as they move into high school and further education.

Ambition



'Just as the human body is made up of many parts as a single unit, because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In one spirit we were all baptised...'

1 Corinthians 12:12



'Safeguarding is effective. The leadership team has ensured that all safeguarding arrangements are fit for purpose.'

'Pupils...described to me how they feel safe at school and how they appreciate helping each other.'

– OFSTED, 2017



'The school's Roman Catholic affiliation underpins all aspects of school life. It is reflected in the core values of Love, Trust, Teamwork & Ambition. You use the example of the school patron, St Thérèse of Lisieux, to exemplify the importance of small acts of kindness to others'

– OFSTED, 2017



'The inclusive nature of the school embraces all cultures and abilities, and ensures everyone is valued'

– Diocesan

OFSTED inspection,
March 2017



The Starfish Story

We have adopted this famous fable by the philosopher, Loren Eiseley, as our school story because it represents our belief in the difference that education can make to every individual person.

While walking along a beach, an elderly gentleman saw someone in the distance leaning down, picking something up and throwing it into the sea.

As he got closer, he noticed that the figure was that of a young lady, picking up starfish one by one and tossing each one gently back into the water.

He came closer still and called out, "Good morning! May I ask what it is that you are doing?"

The young lady paused, looked up, and replied "Throwing starfish into the sea."

The old man smiled, and said, "I must ask, then, why are you throwing starfish into the sea?"

To this, the young lady replied, "The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them in, they'll die."

Upon hearing this, the elderly observer commented, "But, young lady, do you not realise that there are miles and miles of beach and there are starfish all along every mile?"

You can't possibly make a difference!"

The young lady listened politely. Then she bent down, picked up another starfish, threw it back into the sea, past the breaking waves and said, "*It made a difference for that one.*"



Contact St Teresa's

St Teresa's RC
Primary School,
Montacute Road,
Morden,
SM4 6RL

0208 648 1846

www.st-teresas.merton.sch.uk
school@st-teresas.merton.sch.uk

*'Every person is a
work in progress...
Every day is a gift.'*

Thomas Groome-
Educating for
Life, 1998



Love

Trust

Teamwork

Ambition