St Teresa's Catholic Primary School Living Our Values Everyday st 7

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!

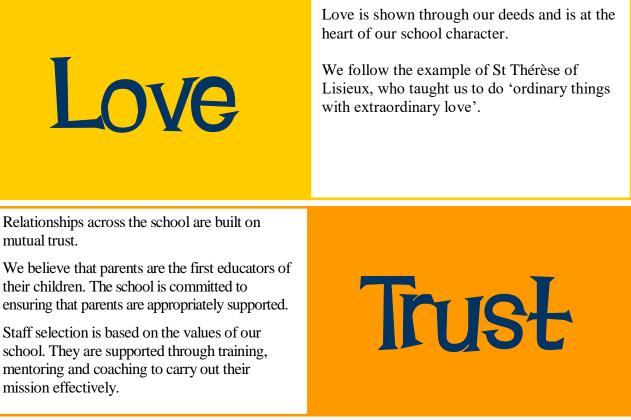
Justin Dachtler -Headteacher 'St Teresa's is a warm and welcoming school providing an outstanding *Catholic education*' – Diocesan OFSTED inspection, March 2017





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.



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.

Ambilion



'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



*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





'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

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'Every person is a work in progress... Every day is a gift.' Thomas Groome-Educating for Life, 1998

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