



St Mary's CE Primary School

N8 7QN

Rights Respecting Schools Policy

Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

Our Vision

As we love, we flourish

As we flourish, we aspire

As we aspire, we achieve

Together, we are a family.

Friendship, Compassion, Hope, Wisdom, Community,
Endurance.

May 2021

Through our daily school life at Mary's Church of England Primary School we encourage our children to build respectful friendships and demonstrate compassion towards others. Through this we build a strong community spirit, as together we are a family. Our teaching and learning provides the children with the wisdom and endurance they need to expand their minds socially, morally and academically so allowing them to achieve and flourish and fulfil 'Life in all its fullness.' (John 10:10). We encourage our children to demonstrate and develop a dignity in their work and themselves which enables them to hope to aspire to be the best they can possibly be.

Rights Respecting School Policy

As a Rights Respecting School, our philosophy is underpinned by the values and principles of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

The Convention sets out the rights of children. These basic rights encompass survival, protection, development and participation. The UNCRC is underpinned by four principles:

1. Non-discrimination
2. Commitment to the best interests of the child
3. The right to life, survival and development
4. Respect for the views of the child.

Rights are universal and cannot be taken away.

The main responsibility for ensuring that all children enjoy their rights lies with adults. All rights are equally important.

Our Vision Statement

As we love, we flourish

As we flourish, we aspire

As we aspire, we achieve

Together, we are a family

At St Mary's CE Primary, our Vision places our Christian values of '**Friendship, Compassion, Hope, Wisdom, Community and Endurance**' at the core of everything we do.

These Christian values are embedded into the fabric of every aspect of school life, and are supported by and demonstrated through our commitment to the four principles of the UNCRC.

All decisions taken at St. Mary's are made in the best interests of children. As school policies are reviewed, links with the values and principles of the UNCRC will be made explicit. RRSA features regularly on agendas at staff meetings so that for all staff knowledge and understanding remains relevant.

The Curriculum and the UNCRC

Every year group learns about the UNCRC, and wherever possible we view learning from a rights' perspective. Displays are explicitly linked to the UNCRC.

We aim to integrate Children's rights in a meaningful and explicit way throughout the curriculum. Embedding children's rights across the curriculum builds children's knowledge and understanding of their rights and develops behaviours consistent with respecting and promoting human rights.

Through our teaching and learning of children's rights we aim to fulfil the Church of England's vision of "Life in all its fullness," (John 10:10) by thoroughly embedding the UNCRC into broad and exciting curriculum.

The School has a Rights Respecting Ethos

Class Charters are drawn up as a collaboration between the children and adults in each class and identify the rights that are most important to the class, together with the ways in which adults and children will act in order to do their best to ensure that these rights are respected. All members of the community model Rights Respecting language. The environment is safe, physically and emotionally. All members of the school community are encouraged to be ambassadors for children's rights. Parents and the wider community are included in our work as a Rights Respecting School.

Children are empowered to become active citizens and learners

Pupils' opinions and thoughts are sought, encouraged and respected in all aspects of the school's work. Pupil Leadership is an integral part of the school's approach. Children are given opportunities to lead aspects of school life through a range of groups including: School Council, Rights Respecting Steering Group, Playground Buddies and Peer Mentors. Pupils are encouraged to develop their knowledge and awareness of how they can have a positive impact on their immediate environment and on the wider world, now and in the future. The Rights Respecting Steering Group is made up of pupils from all year groups who meet regularly with the Rights Respecting School Leads.

Roles and Responsibilities

The responsibility for St Mary's CE Primary School being a Rights Respecting School lies with every member of the school community. The main responsibility rests with adults.

Review and Monitoring

This policy overlaps with other policies and should be reviewed in conjunction with these policies, including:

- Anti-bullying Policy
- Exclusions Policy
- Special Educational Needs (SEN) Policy
- Equal Opportunities Policy
- Attendance Policy
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Disability Discrimination Scheme.

The Rights Respecting School Leads will conduct regular monitoring through undertaking pupil surveys and learning environment walks and holding discussions with children to ensure that their rights are being met, celebrated and woven into all areas of learning and school life.