



Our School Values

At St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School we believe that children can achieve **personal excellence** through the teaching and modelling of our **school values and skills**. Our shared values are central to achieving our aims and sustaining the **positive ethos** of our school. As a moral compass, they guide us from day to day in our learning, thinking and decision making.

The impact of our values is evident in the daily life of our school.

We **STRIVE** for every child to be:

- **Spiritual**
- **Thinkers**
- **Resilient**
- **Independent**
- **Valued**
- **Empathetic**

How does reading at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School promote our school 'STRIVE' values?

During our reading lessons and reading for pleasure we are...

Spiritual- Pupils are provided with opportunities to extract meaning beyond the literal and consider hidden meanings whilst engaging with ideas in fiction, non-fiction, poetry and drama.

Thinkers- Pupils are provided with opportunities to read texts that portray issues and events relating to contemporary life or past experiences in interesting and challenging

ways. Exploring and analysing appropriate texts gives pupils the knowledge and ability to question and reason.

Resilient- All children are provided with opportunities to read challenging literature and apply their reading skills when exploring quality literature within lessons and when reading independently.

Independent- Participation, creativity, reflection and independence are encouraged in all English lessons. As pupils gain confidence in their decoding skills and comprehension strategies, they gain greater independence within their learning.

Valued- During reading lessons, all pupils can contribute to lessons and discussions about texts and know that their opinions and individual skills and talents are valued by their peers and teachers. Staff have high expectations for all pupils to develop their decoding and comprehension skills as every pupil is valued.

Empathetic- Literature is selected which encourages pupils to empathise with the feelings and experiences of others to help develop their understanding of other people's attitudes, ideas and behaviour. Pupils develop sensitive awareness of, and the ability to respond constructively to, backgrounds, experiences, concerns, feelings and commitments of others through a range of different narratives.

How does writing at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School promote our school 'STRIVE' values?

During our writing lessons we are...

Spiritual- Pupils are provided with opportunities to extract meaning beyond the literal and consider hidden meanings whilst engaging with writing from all genres: fiction, non-fiction and poetry. They explore how the choice of a writer's language used and their style affects implied and explicit meaning. Pupils learn how to use language in imaginative and original ways, drawing on knowledge of what they have read and considering how words, usage and meaning change over time.

Thinkers- Pupils are provided with opportunities to write texts that portray issues and events relating to contemporary life or past experiences in interesting and challenging

ways. Exploring and analysing their own and others' work, and writing their own pieces gives pupils the knowledge and ability to question and reason.

Resilient- All children are provided with opportunities to engage with challenging literature and apply their literacy skills when exploring quality texts and models of writing, both within lessons and independently. Pupils are provided with the opportunities to develop their resilience when writing independently for example in 'Big Writing' sessions and across the curriculum.

Independent- Participation, creativity, reflection and independence are encouraged in all English lessons. As pupils gain further confidence in their phonic knowledge, composition and transcription skills, they therefore gain greater independence within their learning.

Valued- During writing lessons, all pupils can contribute to discussions about the written form and know that their opinions and individual skills and talents are valued by their peers and teachers. Staff have high expectations for all pupils to develop their writing skills as every pupil is valued. Pupils explore the work of current influences and key individuals from our literary heritage; they examine their use of language, and consider the vocabulary and grammar of Standard English and dialect variations. Pupils will regard themselves as writers and value their own work and that of others.

Empathetic- Literature is selected which encourages pupils to empathise with the feelings and experiences of others to help develop their understanding of other people's attitudes, ideas and behaviour. Pupils develop sensitive awareness of, and the ability to respond constructively to backgrounds, experiences, concerns, feelings and the commitments of others through a range of different narratives. Pupils learn to empathise with others and offer feedback to their peers regarding their written work in a supportive and collaborative manner.

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Mathematics?

Our children strive to:

Spiritual- Develop deep thinking and question the way in which the world works, promoting their **spiritual** growth.

Thinkers- Challenge themselves through the use of critical **thinking** and develop efficient and effective approaches to solve problems.

Resilient - Take risks and challenge their mathematical thinking; recognising that 'FAILing' is just a First Attempt In Learning which helps to facilitate their **resilience**

Independent - Draw upon their knowledge and skills to **independently** tackle problems.

Valued - Confidently share their thoughts and approaches, instilling within themselves that they are **valued** members of the class.

Empathetic - Show **empathy** towards their peers, establishing a safe and supportive learning environment

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Science?

Our children strive to be:

Spiritual - We learn about and put into practice ways of caring for our environment, protecting God's precious creations and carrying out his holy will.

Thinkers - We work hard to plan investigations, gathering and analysing data as well as evaluating practical work.

Resilient - We involve problem solving opportunities, allowing children to find out for themselves how to answer questions in a variety of practical means.

Independent - Pupils are encouraged to ask their own questions and be given appropriate equipment to use their scientific skills to discover the answers.

Valued - We encourage pupils to take an active role in 'growing the science through the school' through the use of pupil voice and science ambassador roles. Teachers also recognise individual efforts by granting a scientist of the week certificate.

Empathetic - Students have the understanding that science has changed our lives and that it is vital to the world's future prosperity. Our green team is on the case!

How does PSHE at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School promote our school 'STRIVE' values in PSHE?

During our PSHE lessons we are...

Spiritual- As a Catholic Primary school, the children are immersed in Religious education and live out the Christian values. Children get the opportunity to explore their faith while also learning about other faiths each term. This allows the children to grow up with a better understanding of our society, building a more understanding and welcoming place for all.

Thinkers- Throughout our PSHE lessons, children are given time to think and reflect on their own lives. These lessons provide the opportunity to discuss and explore their own emotions.

Resilient- As a school, we encourage all our children to be resilient. We encourage children to make mistakes and to have opportunities to F.A.I.L - First Attempt In Learning.

Independent- PSHE lessons encourage the children to think for themselves, to be proud of who they are as they are all made in the image and likeness of God.

Valued- As we delve deeper into our PSHE lessons, we explore many different scenarios in school and wider society. This allows children to know they are in a loving and caring environment where everyone is valued.

Empathetic- Exploring different areas of the PSHE curriculum and revisiting topics over their journey in primary school, children are enabled to deepen relationships

with their peers, building stronger relationships where they can show more empathy to each other and our wider community.

School Values:

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through PE?

Spiritual - The values of **truths, peace, love, righteousness, and non-violence** are found in all major spiritual paths, these spiritual paths are also human values and the fundamental roots of a vibrant, healthy and sporting environment in which our children are encouraged to practise.

Thinkers - PE in our school helps an individual much more than in the physical aspects alone. It builds character, teaches and develops strategic thinking, analytical thinking, leadership skills, goal setting and risk taking. PE helps them to explore cause and effect of a given situation and analyse how their actions or the actions of their team and their efforts affect the outcome of a situation.

Resilient - We focus on four core components of resilience: **connection, wellness, healthy thinking, and meaning**. Focusing on these four core components can empower you to withstand and learn from difficult and challenging experiences in PE and School Sport.

Independent - We strive to get our young athletes to think independently, challenge assumptions and ask questions.

In doing so, we believe we are setting our young athletes up for a positive future. A good athlete must be more than performance based, they will need to be able to lead a team and challenge the many obstacles they will grow to face. Therefore, we encourage our athletes to ask questions, rewarding them with positive praise for doing so.

Valued - Characteristics such as sportsmanship, effort and determination are positively reinforced. This form of praise encourages individuals to draw their attention to the

learning process rather than the outcome. As a result, poor results are less psychologically damaging.

That's not to say one should ignore the result – a young athlete will always have feelings on their win or loss, and we shouldn't avoid talking about it. But to create psychological safety and instil confidence in our young athletes, they need to feel valued and appreciated as human beings.

Empathetic - Empathy is defined as the ability to focus on what other people are thinking and understand how other people see things. This critical skill in which we strive to promote in PE and School Sport has tremendous benefits to our young athletes whilst promoting positive interactions with teammates.

School Values:

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Computing?

Spiritual - Our pupils develop deep thinking and question the way in which the world works which promotes the spiritual growth of our pupils.

Thinkers - Children are encouraged (through Computational Thinking) to articulate a problem and think logically. Resources via Barefoot Computing help them to explore cause and effect and analyse how their actions or the actions of others impact the given situation.

Resilient - Our approach to digital resilience focuses on three key areas – online safety, cyber resilience and data protection. We seek to equip our children and young people with excellent knowledge, skills and strategies in these areas and also to recognise when to access help and support and where to find it. Summative and formative assessments allow us to analyse their growth and development within these key areas.

Independent - Independent learning is encouraged and fostered during every Computing lesson. We believe that independent, exploratory learning is at the very core of learning. Making discoveries from a task which the teacher sets, that they are

genuinely interested in and find challenging, and the feeling they gain from self-direction, is wonderfully rewarding for learners as well as an incredible life tool.

Valued - During Computing lessons, all pupils can contribute to lessons and discussions about Computing and know that their opinions and individual skills and talents are valued by their peers and teachers.

Empathetic - Pupils develop sensitive awareness of others and the ability to respond constructively when online.

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Art and Design and Technology?

Our children strive to:

Spiritual - Connect **spiritually** with our community including through using art as a medium to express their individual beliefs

Thinkers- Deepen their **thinking** about when to engage prior knowledge and when thinking critically about work produced by themselves and others

Resilient - Be **resilient** when faced with new experiences and challenges

Independent- Demonstrate **independence** when using resources and working towards an outcome

Valued - **Value** the ideas and opinions of others when working collaboratively

Empathetic - **Empathise** with others by being understanding and supportive of their achievements

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Geography?

Our children strive to:

Spiritual - Connect **spiritually** with our environment through our Laudato Si leaders

Thinkers- Deepen their **thinking** and applying prior knowledge

Resilient - Be **resilient** when faced with new fieldwork experiences

Independent- Demonstrate **independence** when using resources

Valued - **Value** the ideas and opinions of others when working collaboratively

Empathetic - **Empathise** with others when considering world affairs, planning and strategising how to look after our common home

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through History?

Our children strive to:

Spiritual - be reflective about their own beliefs and **spirituality** that inform their perspective on life, and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values

Thinkers - **Think** deeply and carefully when analysing artefacts and sources of information

Resilient - Embrace what history can teach us about **resilience**

Independent - **Independently** seek knowledge by being 'history detectives'

Valued - **Value** past human achievements

Empathetic - Develop **empathy** through learning to see things from other perspectives

How do the pupils at St Michael and St Martin Catholic Primary School develop the school 'STRIVE' values through Music?

Our children strive to:

Spiritual - connect **spiritually** with our community through music performances of hymns during religious services and within the community such as school choir performances.

Thinkers - deepen their **thinking** about when to engage prior knowledge.

Resilient - be **resilient** when faced with new learning experiences in music.

Independent - demonstrate **independence** when using resources and instruments.

Valued - **value** the ideas and opinions of others when working collaboratively.

Empathetic - **empathise** with others by being understanding and supportive of their achievements in music.