Mission

We are proud to be a school in the Plymouth CAST Multi Academy Trust and to share the collective mission statement :

“to be a community of outstanding schools in which our pupils flourish

in safe, happy and stimulating environments and leave us with the knowledge and skills, personal qualities and aspirations, to make the world a better place, inspired by the Gospel.”

Clear Vision and Aims

Jesus said, ‘**I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full**.’

John 10.10

Catholic Schools have deep rooted values which flow from the understanding that God loves each one of us.

We work to ensure that everyone at St Mary’s feels valued : every adult should want to be here and know the important role that they play in developing our children. Every adult should feel empowered and enriched by their experience of working with us.

**Every child is treated as an individual and valued for who they are, nurtured to be the best that they can be.**

Catholic Social teaching, Trust wide values and British Values are the solid ground on which we walk. We are guardians of a tradition that reaches back into history and we work to give dignity and grace to all who encounter us. By valuing and nurturing all we work to create a community built on faith, with faith as the living waters. Our aim is that all will flourish.

*“A community needs a soul if it is to become a true home for human beings. You, the people, must give it this soul”.*

John Paul II

**Our School Values – Growing Change Makers**

These are voiced and lived every day to set and develop expectations for all relationships and learning at St Mary’s.

We aim to develop **confidence** in a range of contexts: confidence to try new things, confidence to take risks, confidence to share feelings and findings, confidence to ask questions and seek answers for clarity, depth and insight, confidence to present a point of view, confidence to name and resolve concerns and confidence to make independent choices.

We aim to develop a love and appreciation of **learning,** where challenge is viewed as opportunity to progress. We aim to develop understanding of the learning process, where pupils recognise that they may have particular strengths and that through focus and resilience children can be successful.

We aim to foster a sense of **enjoyment.** Sometimes, this will be seen during activities; sometimes, this will materialise upon reflection. Sometimes, enjoyment will stem from the nature of the activity; at other times, it may stem from the approach. Enjoyment must be seen as more than fun, but rather the benefit that arises. Therefore, we aim to encourage pupils to consider a range of factors that have impacted upon their quality of experience.

We aim for all pupils to strive for, and recognise **achievement** in a wide variety of subjects, including communication, science and mathematics, the arts, sport, humanities and computing. Achievement also exists within personal contexts, where children have shown the qualities of endurance or determination, or have overcome obstacles. Achievement is both short and long term. We aim to praise, encourage and sustain achievement so that learning continues to flourish.

We aim for all pupils to recognise and understand their own feelings, and to respond to others in a positive way. We aim to promote awareness of different cultures and faiths, and the importance of similarities and differences. We aim to develop appreciation and tolerance, so that **respect** is given to all. Respect for one another should not be passive, but rather active, where pupils reach out to others, individually, as a small group, or collectively as a class or school, to make a difference.

Above all we seek to grow children who have the skills and the desire to make a positive difference to their own lives and a desire and the skills to reach out to others and make a difference to them.