# **Astley School's Christian Values.**



# Love (forgiveness, trust, friendship, truthfulness)

#### 'Perfect love drives out fear' 1 John 4 v 18

We are seeking to create a community where adults and children are motivated by love and not fear. In school, this is expressed by positive relationships where mutual respect allows love to flourish and fear to diminish. Love is being selfless in our thoughts and actions, wanting the best for others as well as ourselves. It is characterised by interactions that build others up. At times, this may involve tough love enabling all to achieve their potential. We seek to be a transparent community where honesty, the ability to admit to mistakes, to say sorry and to start afresh are all central. We want our pupils to leave school having experienced meaningful friendships that could last a lifetime.

## Joy (peace, creativity, hope, compassion, generosity, thankfulness)

# 'In your presence there is fullness of joy.' Psalm 16 v 11

We believe that true, life-long learning can only take place in an environment characterised by joy. Our desire is that all who work and learn within Astley School will do so joyfully. This will be enabled by relationships rooted in love and respect, learning that is skilful, creative and purposeful, and an environment (inside and outside) that is characterised by beauty and order. Joy is not the same as happiness and acknowledges that sad and difficult moments happen. We recognise that joy isn't about what we have or can do but is about who we are and what we can give. Developing thankfulness, compassion and generosity within each of us is key to a community filled with joy, hope and peace.

#### Respect (humility, gentleness, tolerance, kindness, dignity, self-control)

### 'Show proper respect to everyone.' 1 Peter 2 v17

Our pupils have defined respect as listening to the views of others, showing understanding and empathy, valuing others and the environment, following rules and showing good manners. Respect enables Astley School to be a calm environment where love and joy are seen and felt. Respect celebrates differences. This is based on the Christian belief that all are made in the image of God. It ensures that we embrace additional needs, seeking the best for everyone. Respect is caught and taught. We all seek to be self-controlled, gentle, to empathise and understand, whilst being accepting of different views.

#### Courage (determination, resilience, justice, patience, wisdom)

### 'Be strong and courageous.' Joshua 1 v9

We desire that our pupils develop the ability to be courageous when facing fears or difficulties. It is true that nothing that is precious or important is easily won. We model that living and learning requires courage, with risks taken, fears faced and sacrifices made. Christian belief inspires us to be people who will say and do the right thing regardless of the cost. We inspire children with stories of people of courage. Whilst acknowledging fears, we teach children that feelings should not always determine actions. We seek to train pupils to do what is wise and right. Courage and resilience are often countercultural. We want our pupils to be courageous and impact the world for good.