

Courageous Advocates, Faith in Action and Leadership

At St Cleopas, our Christian vision, "As I have loved you, so you must love one another. Then everyone will know that you are my disciples" (John 13:34), guides and shapes all that we do. This vision calls our school community to live out love through action, service and leadership, enabling every child to grow, flourish and live life in all its fullness.

Courageous Advocacy

Our Courageous Advocates play a crucial role in living out our Christian vision by showing love for one another through their words, actions and leadership. Inspired by Jesus' example of selfless love, they act as role models who encourage kindness, compassion and justice across the school community.

Working closely with our vicar, Sian, pupils reflect on how to live out our Christian mission in practical ways. They lead and support elements of collective worship, take part in class worships across the school and share prayerful experiences that invite others to reflect on God's love.

Our Courageous Advocates demonstrate love in action by:

- Completing learning walks to evaluate and develop our Christian environment
- Participating in whole-school self-evaluation, offering thoughtful feedback and suggesting improvements
- Collating questionnaires and gathering pupil voice to help leaders understand how well our vision is lived out
- Leading initiatives that empower other children to become courageous advocates
- Developing prayer spaces and creating reflective resources that support spiritual growth

Through these responsibilities, children are given meaningful opportunities to flourish as confident, compassionate leaders. Their work nurtures spirituality across the school, encouraging pupils to reflect, pray and act with love, so that "everyone will know" they are living as Jesus' disciples.

Our Christian vision also calls us to love in action and this underpins our school commitment to charity and courageous advocacy. Our families actively support local, national and global causes, including Foodbanks, The Whitechapel Centre, Macmillan Coffee Morning, MOEBIUS, the Royal British Legion, Red Nose Day, Sports Relief, Children in Need, Save the Children and Christmas Jumper Days. Through these experiences, pupils develop empathy, generosity and the confidence to stand up for others, learning that even small actions can make a meaningful difference in God's world.

What our pupils say-

"We help make sure everyone feels included and listened to. I'm proud that my voice can help our school grow."

"When we lead worship, it helps me think about my God and how I can help others feel calm and mindful."

JAM (Jesus and Me) Lunchtime Club

JAM (Jesus and Me) is a welcoming lunchtime club that supports many children in exploring faith through the lens of love and relationship. Through prayer, discussion, exploring the Bible and creative activities, children deepen their understanding of who Jesus is and why he came. JAM provides a safe space for spiritual reflection, helping children to explore faith and flourish as individuals.

What our pupils say-

"When we pray or listen to stories, it makes us feel peaceful and helps us reflect."

"JAM helps me learn about faith and reminds me that God loves everyone."

Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award

A group of Year 6 pupils also take part in the **Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award**, where leadership is rooted in service and love for others. Children learn that leadership is about following Jesus' example—serving others with humility, courage and compassion. This opportunity empowers pupils to lead in ways that reflect our Christian vision and support the flourishing of the wider community.

What our pupils say-

"The Young Leaders Award has helped me understand that leadership means helping others and showing love to everyone."

"Jesus is our example of a good leader, and we try to follow that in school."

Spirituality and Flourishing

Spirituality at St Cleopas is nurtured as a journey of love, reflection and growth. Children are encouraged to reflect on their relationship with themselves, others, the world and God. Through prayer, worship, leadership and service, pupils learn how to love one another as Jesus loved them, enabling all members of our school community to flourish.

Spirituality is not something we can see; it is something we feel inside ourselves. It is about awe and wonder, asking questions, inspiration and being aware of something 'bigger' outside of ourselves.

What our pupils say-

"I feel peaceful when everyone is kind and I know I belong."

"I'm happy when I help others and try my best, even if it's hard sometimes."