



# St. Luke's CEVA Primary School

## Underpinning our Core Vision

**A Christian school that serves a diverse community and works in partnership with parents to develop the whole child.**

### **A Christian school**

St. Luke's aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. St. Luke's strives to impart wisdom<sup>1</sup>, knowledge and skills; to inspire hope<sup>2</sup>; to instil respect<sup>3</sup> for all and to invest in community<sup>4</sup>. St. Luke's is mindful of issues regarding safeguarding, the prevention of bullying and the inclusion of those with special educational needs and disabilities, it seeks to promote a positive sense of self-worth for all.

### **Diverse community**

As well as developing a vibrant and attractive sense of our Christian identity, St. Luke's also seeks to serve and extend a warm welcome and hospitality to those of different faiths or none who wish to journey with us.<sup>5</sup> This invitation applies to both the pupils and their families, as well as those who work within the school on a daily basis, or visit with us on occasion. We believe that all people should be treated with respect and dignity regardless of difference, as all people are made in the image of God and the Bible exhorts us to love our neighbours as ourselves.<sup>6</sup> St. Luke's seeks to be an inclusive school in the fullest sense of the word.

### **Partnership with parents**

We believe that children flourish first and foremost within the family,<sup>7</sup> so with this in mind the school seeks to work in partnership with parents/carers to promote pupils development, mental health, wellbeing and safety. As a school we seek to provide easy access points for parents, whether that be through chatting with senior staff on the school gate, meeting with teachers, themed coffee mornings and workshops, assemblies or during more formal meetings. It is hoped that such opportunities will facilitate communication and allow not only for the celebration of success, but also for concerns to be dealt with quickly and easily, thus avoiding escalation; this approach also encourages a sense of family and community within school, something which is of great value to us.

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<sup>1</sup> Proverbs 4: 6 - 7

<sup>2</sup> Romans 15:13

<sup>3</sup> Luke 6:31

<sup>4</sup> 1 John 4: 11

<sup>5</sup> Leviticus 19:34; Hebrews 13:2; 1 Peter 4:9

<sup>6</sup> Mark 12:30 - 31

<sup>7</sup> Ephesians 6:1 - 4

### **Development of the whole child**

St. Luke's is aspiring to fulfil this directive, as it has historically ( since its founding in the 1860's with a covenant to serve local people), by establishing a vibrant Christian vision and identity that is rooted in the person and work of Jesus Christ,

The Church of England Vision for Education promotes the importance of educating for 'life in all its fullness'<sup>8</sup>, a sentiment that is echoed in St. Luke's desire to educate the whole child. Naturally as a school we recognise the importance of imparting knowledge and developing skills, but more than this we also want to encourage the pursuit of wisdom, (Luke 2:52). At St. Luke's we have invested considerable time in developing our core Christian values, our approach to teaching and learning and our curriculum, to ensure that levels of inspiration, impartation, expectation and ethical development remain high. We also believe that educating the whole child involves more than the just developing the mind and therefore place a high priority on sporting and musical development, and ecology, with our sports teams doing particularly well and an exciting musical partnership with the London Borough of Newham's music department having begun in September 2018. The school also has five green flags.

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<sup>8</sup> John 10:10