

# St Hugh's Catholic Primary School

## A Journey in Love

**Year 4:** God loves us in our Differences

Parent Information

**Foreword:** Pope Francis in his Apostolic Exhortation, *Amoris Laetitia*, ("The Joy of Love"), reminds us that the family is where we first learn to relate to others, to listen and share, to be patient, to help one another, learn closeness, care and respect for others, (n.276). He underlines the importance and vital role Catholic Schools play in assisting and helping pupils grow into mature adults, (n.279). He accentuates that sex education should provide information while keeping in mind that children have not yet attained maturity. This information has to come at a proper time and in a way suited to their age (n.281).



It is hoped that love starts to enter our life from the moment of birth when we are held tenderly in the arms of our mother and developed throughout our first intimate relationship of childhood with our parents, family members, friends and teachers. At puberty the secondary sexual characteristics arise. Now we begin to seek someone from outside our family and, armed with our first relationship, we explore our second intimate relationship of love, usually ending in marriage.

The whole purpose of Catholic education at home and in the primary school is to connect every aspect of growth: physical, social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual, with love. The ultimate goal is to enable children to grow into adults who fully understand their own self-worth and love themselves (i.e. accept themselves positively) and, in turn, be able to love their neighbour (i.e. make themselves fully available to others). Parents and teachers are privileged to assist children every moment of their lives to further this link of love with their humanity and thus with God. This revised edition of *Journey in Love* is a brilliant reconciliation between the human and divine aspects of love. It offers a vision that is none other than the Kingdom of God, summed up by Jesus in the double commandments of loving God and our neighbour as ourselves.

Baroness Sheila Hollins

### YEAR 4

Children will make links and connections to show that we are all different. They will celebrate these differences as we appreciate that God's love accepts us as we are now and as we change.

**Skills:** Respecting/ encouraging/ recognising/ appreciating/ celebrating/relating.

**Social and Emotional:** Children will be able to describe how we all should be accepted and respected

**Physical:** Children will be able to describe how we should treat others, making links with the diverse modern society we live in.

**Spiritual:** Children will celebrate the uniqueness and innate beauty of each of us.

### PARENTS

Things you could do at home:

Talk to your children about how we should respect others even when they are different from ourselves

Talk about in what ways we can expect to be treated with respect and in turn show respect to others.

Talk about things we can do to keep ourselves and others safe in our community.

Loving Father,  
Thank you for each member  
of my family and for all my friends.  
Thank you for making each of us special  
and uniquely loved by you.  
Amen.