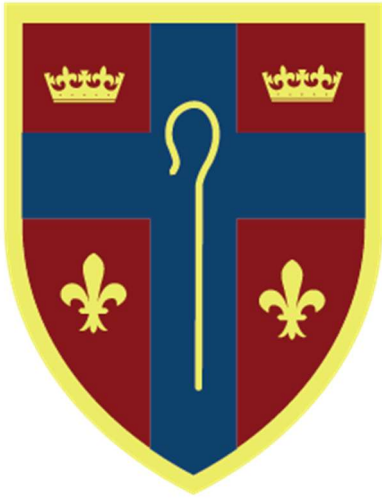




Our Virtues Curriculum



St Bernard's Catholic High School
Barrow-in-Furness

COMMITTED LEARNERS | EXCEPTIONAL PEOPLE

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Why do we exist?

St Bernard's Catholic High School is an inclusive and caring place of "learning, love, and compassion", with Christ at the centre of all that we do.

*What do we make? Our Core Purpose:
Committed Learners. Exceptional People.*

*What language do we use?
Our Virtues.*

Learning Virtues

Intentional.

Attentive.

Eloquent.

To Work



Living Virtues

Integrity.

Compassion.

Service.

To Pray

Introduction

Who We Are

Saint Bernard's is a proud institution of Catholic education. Originally, our school was founded as Saint Aloysius in 1953, before taking on its current title in 1979. Ours is a rich heritage and pupils' experience of our school is part of this storied history.



Both saints espoused strong beliefs in humility and commitment.

St Aloysius is the patron saint of youth, and was renowned for his compassion and service to the sick and vulnerable.

"It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world."

St Bernard is known for his ability to inspire others to faith, and for spreading the Word of God to others.

"There are those who seek knowledge for the sake of knowledge; that is Curiosity.

There are those who seek knowledge to be known by others; that is Vanity.

There are those who seek knowledge in order to serve; that is Love."



Our Mission as a Catholic School

"Just as Our Lord Jesus Christ is at the heart of all our prayer and liturgy, so too he is at the centre of every Catholic school. His Gospel is the reference point for its ethos and values; he offers the definitive example of the educator." To Know You More Clearly, Prayer and Liturgy Directory

Our school patron is beloved for his acts of service and compassion. His absolute devotion to Christ is crystallised in our school motto, 'To work is to pray', and is the basis for the core of our mission statement:

St Bernard's Catholic High School is an inclusive and caring place of "learning, love, and compassion", with Christ at the centre of all that we do.

Our mission, then, is to produce and develop committed learners and outstanding people. This document, and our virtues curriculum, are designed to complement and underpin our knowledge-rich curriculum and our clear, warm-strict behaviour policy and procedures:

We are committed to serving our community in line with the teachings and values of our Catholic faith, which form the foundation of our pupils' growth and success both here at St Bernard's and beyond, as they move forward in life.

Our school is characterised by our St Bernard's Family feel, with staff committed to knowing our pupils exceptionally well as an individual created in the image and likeness of God.

We treat all of those in our care with dignity and respect, making each individual feel valued and known in the love of God.

Why Virtues?

A virtue is defined by the Catechism of the Catholic Church as 'an habitual and firm disposition to do the good. It allows the person not only to perform good acts but to give the best of himself' (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1753).

Our virtues curriculum is the means by which we explicitly teach the young people in our care how they can participate in the life of our Catholic school as a committed learner and exceptional person, designed in the image of God. It outlines how we must learn and live together at St Bernard's, with complementary virtues in each aspect of school life.

The proposed virtues are shaped by the Jesuit Pupil Profile, which is predicated on the belief that the pursuit of academic excellence and adherence to Christ's teaching are synonymous in Catholic schools: "There is no separation between time for learning and time for formation." (*Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*)

Why a Virtues Curriculum?

By adopting a virtues curriculum, we are explicitly teaching the means by which our young people must live and learn together to become committed learners and exceptional people in service to God. "What we love we shall grow to resemble."

The EEF's report *Improving Behaviour in Schools* cites the importance of teaching desired behaviours explicitly alongside sanctions and systems for managing misbehaviour. We have implemented clear expectations and sanctions around behaviour, which this will complement and underpin.

Tom Bennett's paper *Creating a Culture (2017)* cites that "The way students behave in school is strongly correlated with their eventual outcomes." Especially pertinent is the emphasis on designing the desired culture for a school with absolute clarity and precision: "Cultures require deliberate creation. A key role of leadership is to design a detailed vision of what the culture should look like for that school, focussing on social and academic conduct. Expectations must be as high as possible, for all."

Why Now?

Our recent Section 48 inspection report noted that "Staff at all levels show a great desire to keep St Bernard's a caring and compassionate school while it strives to improve academic standards." We have a duty and a need to ensure that the academic outcomes of our young people are exceptional.

Our priority as a school, through this work, and through our structures and systems, is in constructing a stronger culture within school than any outside which may hinder or distract the young people we serve from doing this.

As well as the post-pandemic challenges still facing young people, this has exacerbated some of the problematic values and behaviours which "undermine any idea of community identity", emphasising the need for the Catholic school "to speak for itself effectively and convincingly." (*Catholic School on the Threshold of the Third Millennium*).

Context

Catholic Education and the Furness Area

Our school is situated in the Furness peninsula a short distance from Furness Abbey, and has been host to an unbroken chain of Catholic education in this historic location for over seventy years. The very pinnacle of our collective worship as a school are our Masses which take place here.

Therefore, with our virtues curriculum we intentionally capture our school's charism and unique character, as well as that of our town and locality.



North-East View of the Ruins of Furness Abbey.

"The situation of this abbey, so favourable to a contemplative life, justifies the choice of the first settlers" The Antiquities of Furness (1774) by Thomas West

Appreciation of, and affinity with, our school's values and tradition is important: we want pupils' connection with St Bernard's to transcend their five years' education here, and remain with them in whatever path they follow.

Our local area is renowned, amongst other things, for its world class engineering and outstanding natural beauty. Despite its isolated geographical location, we want to imbue in our young people a profound sense of pride in our local area, yet also recognise the world beyond it and believe they can achieve the greatness for which they were designed and created.

However, its isolation and negative perceptions can exacerbate lack of aspiration and self-worth for our young people. Through virtue champions linked to our area, and a better understanding and affinity with our heritage and history as a town, we can instil a sense of agency, belief and self-efficacy.

Diversity and Inclusion

At its heart is the belief in placing disadvantaged pupils, and those with any barriers to learning, at the forefront of our thinking. It is this, aligning with our Catholic ethos on which this is based.

Our school, relative to the demographics of our area, is increasingly diverse, and this is something we celebrate and see as integral to our identity as a school. This is reflected in our burgeoning ranks of student leadership, and we have pupils of various faiths representing our school values. It is of vital importance that our virtues curriculum reflects this, too.

In essence, we want all of our pupils, who hail from an ever-wider variety of backgrounds, to be proud Barrovians and citizens of the world, showing tolerance and understanding towards all others. In school, this begins with explicit teaching of our *St Bernard's way* and consistent messaging on this, for all pupils.

Outcomes

Aims

To embed a distinctive, palpable culture of learning and excellence, as well as exceptional behaviour in school. This is underpinned by our school virtues, which sit alongside our motto *to work is to pray*. Our virtues curriculum, therefore, forms the frontloading aspect of the systems through which we manage and monitor standards and behaviour in school.

Students will understand what it means to belong to our St Bernard's family, and be able to articulate and exemplify the expectations and virtues of our school community.

Doug Lemov cites a "symbiotic relationship" between behaviour and culture: behaviour refers to norms and actions. Procedures are introduced, accompanied by routines, thus creating positive norms as to how pupils speak, move, and behave around school, requiring granular detail.

Therefore we must explicitly teach and narrate our virtues and how they can be realised by pupils, and ensure these are clearly understood and regularly revisited.

Principles

- Every member of our school community is a unique individual made in the image of God for greatness.
- Love and compassion involve saying no, and holding to account, as well as saying yes and giving freedom.
- Our virtues curriculum represents an intentional emphasis on frontloading and explicitly teaching behaviour and routines, not just managing it.
- Therefore a shared language, with precise communication of our virtues and expectations, is fundamental to the efficacy of our virtues curriculum.

Characteristics

- A culture of high expectations, from all staff for all of our young people.
- Orderly transitions and social times around our school.
- Effective and compassionate systems of support and behaviour management, along with clear rewards, incentives, and opportunities for those who embody our virtues and ethos.

Success Criteria

- Pupils understand, and are able to articulate, our school virtues and exemplify how they are able to live them out in our school.
- Student voice demonstrates high level of pride in our school through surveys, pupil focus groups, and sampling
- Improvement in attendance
- Reduction in suspensions
- Reduction in repeat offenders in isolation.

Learning Virtues Detail

Being Intentional	
<i>We make positive, deliberate decisions, because life is a gift from God.</i>	
Etymology	
From Old French <i>entencion</i> "purpose, aspiration; will; thought" (12c.), from Latin <i>intentionem</i> "a stretching out, exertion, effort; attention"	
Synonyms	Antonyms
Purposeful Deliberate Thoughtful	Passive Unfocused Unreliable
Explanation	
• I have agency over my future path in life • I am focused and goals-driven • Education is a gift and force for good, not something to be endured • "Excellence is a habit: we become what we repeatedly do" • Success looked different for everyone, but it is achievable through making good choices • Through God's grace and love, we can be anything and achieve anything	
Intentional learners are:	
• Resilient in the face of setbacks • Conscientious in learning and their conduct towards others • Motivated in their studies, as they have direction and purpose • Disciplined in their approach to their learning and other pursuits • Consistent in effort and application towards all things • Driven to succeed, showing gratitude to God and those around me	
What this looks like:	
• Embracing challenges and obstacles, knowing that they help me learn • Showing initiative with my work and in leading by example • Being prepared for learning • Setting and articulating goals, and making decisions that help me get there • Adopting positive habits towards learning • Choosing the difficult route towards success	
Biblical Sources	
"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago" (Ephesians 2:10) "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord" (Colossians 3:23) "In all toil there is profit" (Proverbs 14:23) "I can do all things through him who strengthens me." (Philippians 4:13) "For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)	
Other Catholic Sources	
Pope Francis - "Kindness is firm and persevering intention to always will the good of others, even the unfriendly."	

Catechism of the Catholic Church – "Love is itself the fulfillment of all our works. There is the goal; that is why we run: we run toward it, and once we reach it, in it we shall find rest" (CCC 1829)

"The divine and the human meet in the slightest detail in the seamless garment of God's creation, in the last speck of dust of our planet." (Laudato Si')

The heart is also the locus of sincerity, where deceit and disguise have no place. It usually indicates our true intentions, what we really think, believe and desire, the "secrets" that we tell no one: in a word, the naked truth about ourselves.

"Instead of running after superficial satisfactions and playing a role for the benefit of others, we would do better to think about the really important questions in life. Who am I, really? What am I looking for? What direction do I want to give to my life, my decisions and my actions? Why and for what purpose am I in this world? How do I want to look back on my life once it ends? What meaning do I want to give to all my experiences? Who do I want to be for others? Who am I for God? All these questions lead us back to the heart." (Dilexit Nos)

"Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. We have only today. Let us begin" – Saint Mother Teresa.

"When I think of the happiness that is in store for me, every sorrow, every pain becomes dear to me" – Saint Francis of Assisi.

"Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire." - St Catherine of Siena

"Whenever you begin any good work you should first of all make a most pressing appeal to Christ our Lord to bring it to perfection." — Saint Benedict

Actions speak louder than words; let your words teach and your actions speak.
-Saint Anthony of Padua

Virtue Champions

Saint Bernard – "What we love we shall grow to resemble."

Carlo Acutis – "Life is a gift, because as long as we are on this planet, we can grow in our ability to love."

Georgia Stanway: "It feels so incredible to know we've inspired a new generation; all we wanted was to be role models for girls like us."

Maximilian Kolbe: "Every fall, even if it be very grave and repeated, serves us always and only as a little step towards a higher perfection."

Pope Francis: "From the certainty that God's grace is with us comes the strength to take courage in the present moment."

Katherine Johnson: "You should always be interested in something."

Saint Thomas More: "The whole fruit of their endeavours should consist in the testimony of God and a good conscience."

Nelson Mandela: "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"

Being Attentive	
<i>Find God in learning, each other and all things.</i>	
Etymology	
From Old French <i>atentif</i> "expectant, hopeful," from past-participle stem of Latin <i>attendere</i> "give heed to".	
Synonyms	Antonyms
Studious Appreciative Perceptive	Passive Oblivious Disinterested
Explanation	
• I appreciate God's creation in all its wonder • I am able to appreciate the views and perspectives of others • I value the input of my teachers, and the other adults who support my learning • I listen carefully to instructions, and think deeply about my work • I am able to focus on the lesson and the task before me • I value learning and enjoy making progress towards my goals and potential	
Attentive learners are:	
• Appreciative of the wonder of God's creation • Focused on learning in all subjects • Curious about ideas and concepts, and the links they can draw between them • Perceptive in the way they view and consider the world around them • Proactive in showing habits of attention during learning • Mindful of the value of learning opportunities both in and out of class	
What this looks like:	
• Being present during opportunities to pray and reflect together • Listening and being present in the moment in class • Asking relevant questions and showing academic curiosity • Thinking deeply around ideas and giving full attention to this • Showing initiative and self-starting/being consistent and disciplined • 'Going the extra mile' within lessons, and recognising learning is a journey	
Biblical Sources	
"Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights" (James 1:17) "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands," (Psalm 19:1) "How many are Your works, O LORD! In wisdom You made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures" (Psalm 104:24) "Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." (Philippians 4:6)	
Other Catholic Sources	
"When we can see God reflected in all that exists, our hearts are moved to praise the Lord for all his creatures and to worship him in union with them." (Laudato Si') We are told that, "when he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless" (Mt 9:36).	

(Dilexit Nos)

"Do not be afraid. Open, I say open wide the doors for Christ,"

"Remember the past with gratitude. Live the present with enthusiasm. Look forward to the future with confidence." – Pope Saint John Paul II

"The secret of happiness is to live moment by moment and to thank God for all that he, in his goodness, sends to us day after day." - Saint Gianna Molla

"In all created things discern the providence and wisdom of God, and in all things give Him thanks." - Saint Teresa of Avila

"The most deadly poison of our times is indifference. And this happens, although the praise of God should know no limits. Let us strive, therefore, to praise Him to the greatest extent of our powers." - Saint Maximilian Kolbe

Virtue Champions

Mary Seacole: "...and the grateful words and smile which rewarded me for binding up a wound or giving a cooling drink was a pleasure worth risking life for at any time"

Eleanor Roosevelt: "I am grateful for the fact that my country is made up of many peoples; that I have an opportunity to show that I really believe that all men are created equal and that the "Last" Commandment: "Love thy neighbor as thyself," really means what it says."

St Aloysius: "It is better to be a child of God than king of the whole world,"

Ada Lovelace: "Mathematical science shows what is. It is the language of unseen relations between things. But to use and apply that language, we must be able to fully to appreciate, to feel, to seize the unseen, the unconscious."

Alan Turing: "Sometimes it is the people no one imagines anything of who do the things that no one can imagine."

Greta Thunberg: "I've learnt that no one is too small to make a difference."

Being **Eloquent**

Communicating thoughtfully and effectively. Using my voice for good.

Etymology

Present participle of *e/loqui* "speak out," from *ex* "out" + *loqui* "to speak".

Synonyms	Antonyms
Articulate Expressive Well-spoken	Unclear Dishonest Disingenuous

Explanation

- I support my opinions with reasons and respect those held by others.
- I can express my ideas and views clearly.

Eloquent people are:

- Expert listeners, seeking to understand and show curiosity
- Confident speakers who are able to express precise and thoughtful points
- Audible, speaking in a tone which is clear and engaging
- Measured in their speech, using communication positively
- Considerate of others in their use of language and their tone
- Sensitive to the needs of others, and selfless and kind with their words

What this looks like:

- Demonstrating habits of attention; being attentive in the truest sense
- Speaking in full sentences, extending points to give detailed reasons
- Articulating 'loud and proud' when called upon to speak or read in class
- Selecting precise vocabulary when I speak formally e.g. answering a question in class
- Being 'present' within a group, ensuring that they take others into account
- Using constructive, purposeful, and positive language.

Biblical Sources

"Speak the truth in love" (Ephesians 4:15)

"Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another (Ephesians 4:25)

A righteous person "speaks truth in his heart; who does not slander with his tongue and does no evil to his neighbour" (Psalm 15:2-3)

"Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person." (Colossians 4:6)

Other Catholic Sources

"Authentic social dialogue involves the ability to respect the other's point of view and to admit that it may include legitimate convictions and concerns."

"Education and upbringing, concern for others, a well-integrated view of life and spiritual growth: all these are essential for quality human relationships and for enabling society itself to react against injustices, aberrations and abuses of economic, technological, political and media power." (Fratelli Tutti)

Jesus' words show that his holiness did not exclude deep emotions. On various occasions, he demonstrated a love that was both passionate and compassionate. (Dilexit Nos)

"When you seek truth, you seek God whether you know it or not." Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross

"Be who God meant you to be, and you will set the world on fire." – St Catherine of Siena

Virtue Champions

Barack Obama: "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek."

St Nicholas: "The giver of every good and perfect gift has called upon us to mimic Gods giving, by grace, through faith, and this is not of ourselves."

Charles Dickens: ""Have a heart that never hardens, and a temper that never tires, and a touch that never hurts"

Florence Nightingale: "I attribute my success to this—I never gave or took any excuse."

Malala Yousafzai: "One child, one teacher, one book, one pen can change the world"

Jesse Owens: "Find the good. It's all around you. Find it, showcase it and you'll start believing in it."

Living Virtues Detail

The Virtue of Humility	
<i>To show gratitude to God for my talents, offering my work in prayer.</i>	
Etymology	
The English word humility comes from the Latin word <i>humilitas</i> , which means "lowness" or "lowliness" and is derived from <i>humilis</i> ("low," "on the ground").	
Synonyms	Antonyms
Modesty Responsibility Reverence	Indulgence Immaturity Selfishness
Explanation	
• I recognise God's grace and the wonderful gift of life bestowed upon me • My behaviour is my choice: adults can support me, but it is down to me • We value truth and honesty in our school • My education is a privilege and a gift that I will make the most of • I am true to the person I was created to be, while recognising the needs of others • I am more capable than I think: with God's love I can achieve anything	
People who show humility are:	
• Sincere in times of prayer and reflection, and recognise God's love • Dependable and consistent in their contribution to school life • Trustworthy in their words and actions • Dedicated to improving, and proud to be part of St Bernard's • Authentic to themselves and others • Courageous in the face of adversity and challenge, recognising we are not alone in God	
What this looks like:	
• Acting and speaking thoughtfully • Consistently making good choices • Being reliable and honest • Working hard at all times • Being unashamedly you • Standing up for yours and others' beliefs	
Biblical Sources	
"For nothing will be impossible with God." (Luke 1:37) "Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility" (Colossians 3:12) "Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves" (Philippians 2:3) "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up" (James 4:10) "For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted" (Luke 14:11) "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs (3:5-6)	

"Let all that you do be done in love." Corinthians (16:14)

"With God all things are possible" Matthew (19:26)

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." Matthew (5:10)

Other Catholic Sources

"Hope is the theological virtue by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ's promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit." (CCC 1817)

"Christ asks you never to be ashamed to tell others, with all due discretion and respect, about your friendship with him. He asks that you dare to tell others how good and beautiful it is that you found him"

"He encourages us to overcome our fear and to realize that, with him at our side, we have nothing to lose" (*Dilexit Nos*)

"I would rather have learning joined with virtue than all the treasures of kings" Saint Thomas More

"A single 'Blessed be God' in adversity is worth more than a thousand acts of thanksgiving in prosperity." — Saint John of Ávila

The most powerful weapon to conquer the devil is humility. For, as he does not know at all how to employ it, neither does he know how to defend himself from it. -Saint Vincent de Paul

Virtue Champions

Chiara Badano: "I have nothing left, but I still have my heart, and with that I can always love"

Mahatma Ghandi: "The weak can never forgive. Forgiveness is the attribute of the strong"

Martin Luther King: "The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy."

John Henry Newman: "God has created me to do Him some definite service. He has committed some work to me which He has not committed to another"

Maya Angelou: "People will forget what you said. People will forget what you did. But people will never forget how you made them feel"

Marie Curie: "Life is not easy for any of us. But what of that? We must have perseverance and above all confidence in ourselves"

The Virtue of Compassion	
<i>To love my neighbour as Jesus loves me.</i>	
Etymology	
From Late Latin <i>compassionem</i> "sympathy", noun of state from past-participle stem of <i>compati</i> "to feel pity," from <i>com</i> "with, together" + <i>pati</i> "to suffer"	
Synonyms	Antonyms
Empathy Understanding Sensitivity	Indifference Cruelty Selfishness
Explanation	
• I care about those around me, and treat others as I would like to be treated myself • I understand that Jesus' life was one of compassion towards others • My actions show consideration for others • Helping people is an automatic and selfless act • The differences of others are to be celebrated and respected • I try hard to understand how others experience the world differently to me	
People who show compassion are:	
• Sensitive in their actions and words towards others, and think of their needs first • Team-orientated, and goal-focused • Patient and understanding, both towards other people and challenges they face • Curious about other peoples' lives and experiences, and respectful • Dedicated to living the example of Christ during his life on earth • Principled in the way they participate in school life and society	
What this looks like:	
• Being positive and constructive, and finding joy in contributing positively to others' lives • Showing servant leadership and taking initiative in groups and tasks • Showing empathy towards other people, rather than judgement • Being open-minded, listening, and understanding • Showing stewardship in caring for the wonder of God's creation • Being committed to values and beliefs, even when these are challenged	
Biblical Sources	
"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other," (Ephesians 4:32) "Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2) "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." (Matthew 25:35) "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full." (Proverbs 19:17) "Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive." (Colossians 3:12)	
Other Catholic Sources	
Pope Francis - The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness."	

"A truly human and fraternal society will be capable of ensuring in an efficient and stable way that each of its members is accompanied at every stage of life." (Fratelli Tutti)

"The heart of Christ is 'ecstasy,' openness, gift, and encounter. In that heart, we learn to relate to one another in wholesome and happy ways, and to build up in this world God's kingdom of love and justice."

"It is only by starting from the heart that our communities will succeed in uniting and reconciling differing minds and wills, so that the Spirit can guide us in unity as brothers and sisters." (Dilexit Nos)

"I see in my neighbour the Person of Jesus Christ" - Saint Gerard Majella

"We must love our neighbour as being made in the image of God and as an object of His love."
-Saint Vincent de Paul

Virtue Champions

Sir Winston Churchill: "We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give."

Saint Oscar Romero: "Let us not tire of preaching love; it is the force that will overcome the world"

Maria Montessori: "Help me to help myself."

Michelle Obama: "You don't have to be somebody different to be important. You're important in your own right."

St Francis of Assisi: "We have been called to heal wounds, to unite what has fallen apart, and to bring home those who have lost their way"

Queen Elizabeth II: "Even when your life seems most monotonous, what you do is always of real value and importance to your fellow men"

The Virtue of **Service**

To give to God and others and not count the cost.

Etymology

From Latin *servitium*. The meaning "act of serving" is attested from c. 1200, as is that of "assistance, help; a helpful act."

Synonyms	Antonyms
Devotion	Idleness
Contribution	Greed
Selflessness	Rejection

Explanation

- I am responsible for my actions and words
- My behaviour is my choice
- We value truth and honesty in our school
- My education is a privilege and a gift that I will make the most of
- Be true to the person we were created to be
- I am more capable than I think

People who show integrity are:

- Sincere
- Dependable
- Trustworthy
- Dedicated
- Authentic
- Courageous

What this looks like:

- Acting and speaking thoughtfully
- Consistently making good choices
- Being reliable and honest
- Working hard at all times
- Being unashamedly you
- Standing up for yours and others' beliefs

Biblical Sources

"So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up." (Galatians 6:9)

"For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." (Ephesians 2:10)

"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45)

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me" (Matthew 25:35)

"I am the Life, the Truth and the Way." (John 14:6)

"What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul?" Matthew (16:26)

Other Catholic Sources

"Doing good is motivated by love and an understanding of charity, which is a "supernatural perfection of divine love". (CCC)

"We need to develop the awareness that nowadays we are either all saved together or no one is saved."

"There is always the factor of 'gratuitousness': the ability to do some things simply because they are good in themselves, without concern for personal gain or recompense." (Fratelli Tutti)

"A society dominated by narcissism and self-centredness will increasingly become 'heartless'.
"(Dilexit Nos)

"O God, grant that whatever good things I have, I may share generously with those who have not, and whatever good things I do not have, I may request humbly from those who do."

- Saint Thomas Aquinas

It is to those who have the most need of us that we ought to show our love more especially.

- Saint Francis de Sales

"If we wish to make any progress in the service of God we must begin every day of our life with new eagerness. We must keep ourselves in the presence of God as much as possible and have no other view or end in all our actions but the divine honour." - Saint Charles Borromeo

Virtue Champions

Louis Braille: "God was pleased to hold before my eyes the dazzling splendours of eternal hope."

Pope Leo XIV: "We listen to the cry of the earth, we listen to the cry of the poor, because this cry has reached the heart of God."

Mother Teresa: "Prayer in action is love, love in action is service"

Anne Frank: "No one has ever become poor from giving."

Sir Mo Farah: "If I look back down the years, how I was treated as a kid, if it wasn't for the teachers at my school, then I wouldn't have achieved what I have."

Emmeline Pankhurst: "It is obvious to you that the struggle will be an unequal one, but I shall make it - I shall make it as long as I have an ounce of strength left in me, or any life left in me."

Our Shared Language

Our Virtues		In our classrooms...	In our community...
Committed Learners	Intentional 	- At St Bernard's we are intentional in the way we approach our studies. - Our education is a gift, just as every lesson matters to our journey. - Learning is its own reward: education is a wonderful gift in its own way.	- Students attend regularly; they matter, they feel a sense of belonging, they are missed when they are not present. - Students move around school in a mature and purposeful fashion: their education matters, and excellence is a habit. - Students wear their uniform with pride, which represents their overall pride in attending St Bernard's.
	Attentive 	- Tracking me/tracking the text/tracking the board (to direct attention) - By being attentive, _____ has been able to... - Everybody wins when we do the right thing, and when we take pride in our work.	- Students are conscientious in relation to issues and challenges in our local community and in wider society. - Students value their education and see it as the wonderful gift and opportunity that it is. - Students follow instructions first time, every time from all members of staff.
	Eloquent 	(Appreciating the work of staff and thanking them sincerely after a lesson) This enables me to... This helps me to... This will benefit me because... - Can you rephrase that using our key vocabulary/Standard English/developed ideas? - Can you repeat that, loud and proud, for the whole class to hear?	- Students speak and conduct themselves in a manner that is befitting of our expectations in school. - Speak thoughtfully and confidently when presented with the opportunity to do so. - Students have a voice, which they use constructively.
Exceptional People	Humility 	- Today I want to celebrate _____'s work/attitude/success, as they have shown real humility: - Let us show gratitude to God as we end our day/head into lunchtime in prayer: - You are destined for greatness. This looks different to everybody.	- Students accept that their behaviour is a choice which has consequences: good and bad. - Regardless of their beliefs and background, our faith is respected. - Students are resilient and work hard to overcome challenges that they face.
	Compassion 	- Thank you for using Sir/Miss/Name as our St Bernard's full stop to show respect towards others. - By being compassionate, _____ has made a difference to/had a positive impact on... - How could you have shown compassion in that situation in order to...?	- There is a warm sense of belonging within and between adults and young people. - Students consistently make positive choices and consider the needs of others. - Students reflect on their role in our wider school community and society as a whole, taking into account the feelings of others.
	Service 	- Think about how your choices impact those around you. - Let's make sure we leave no trace and respect our school environment (in social/dining spaces) - How can you go above and beyond today/this week/this term? Remember that your work is offered in prayer.	- Students care for their environment in school, locally, and globally. - Students demonstrate leadership qualities when they are called upon to do so, and want to set a positive example. - Students willingly contribute to school life in a positive way, from small acts of service to regular responsibilities.