



As a church school we are currently in the process of converting from a Voluntary Controlled Church School to a Voluntary Aided Church School. Essentially this impacts how we spend money in our school, gives us greater opportunities to carry out much needed maintenance and remedial works on our buildings and grounds and finally empowers the school in managing its admissions and employing staff. But the transition has encouraged the various stakeholders of the school to ask: 'What is a church school?'

At first glance church schools are similar to local authority maintained schools and a good church school is just as good as any other good school. However, the way that a church school works should be different and distinctive. This distinctive difference is rooted in our Christian values that influence the way in which we interact with pupils, parents, visitors and members of staff.

Church schools have Christian beliefs and values at their heart. This means that every child and adult associated with the school is not just important because they are members of the school but because they are seen as unique individuals within God's creation.

Church schools believe that in addition to academic and emotional intelligence human beings also have spiritual intelligence. Therefore, church schools recognise and nurture the spiritual aspects of life alongside the academic and emotional elements.

Church schools are places where challenge through questioning is encouraged as through this we can make sense of the world and the purpose of our own personal lives.

As our school text says: 'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.' Colossians 2:7. A great foundation for our young people as they grow and prepare for adulthood.

Mrs Helen France  
Headteacher

