

At St. Augustine's Catholic Academy, we believe that every child is a unique gift from God, with inherent dignity and potential. Grounded in the teachings of Jesus Christ and the principles of Catholic faith, our vision is guided by the core values of hope, courage, love, justice, service, forgiveness, and compassion. These values permeate every aspect of our EYFS provision, shaping the experiences we offer to our children and families. Our Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provides a nurturing and enriching environment where children flourish academically, spiritually, and emotionally.

Our vision for EYFS is founded on the following principles:

1. **Holistic Development:** We are committed to fostering the holistic development of each child, recognizing their spiritual, moral, social, and cultural dimensions alongside intellectual growth. Through a curriculum rooted in Catholic values, we cultivate a sense of: compassion, hope, courage, love, justice, service, and forgiveness, nurturing children to become responsible citizens of the world. Through this, we are ensuring our children can be recognised for both the quality of their work, and the quality of their character.
2. **Inclusive Community:** In our EYFS, we celebrate the diversity of our community, embracing children from all backgrounds and abilities. We strive to create an inclusive environment where every child feels valued, respected, and supported, fostering a sense of belonging and unity among our children, families, and staff.
3. **Excellence in Education:** We are dedicated to providing high-quality education that inspires curiosity, creativity, and a lifelong love of learning. Our EYFS curriculum is rich, varied, and engaging, designed to ignite children's imaginations, promote critical thinking skills, and lay a solid foundation for future academic success.
4. **Partnership with Parents:** We recognize that parents are the primary educators of their children and are committed to working in partnership with families to support each child's individual growth and development. Through open communication, collaboration, and mutual respect, we create a supportive network that nurtures children's well-being and fosters positive relationships between home and school.
5. **Faith Formation:** Central to our EYFS vision is the nurturing of children's spiritual development within the Catholic faith tradition. Through prayer, worship, and religious instruction, we guide children in deepening their relationship with God, understanding the teachings of Jesus Christ, and living out their faith in daily life.
6. **Safe and Nurturing Environment:** The well-being and safety of every child is paramount in our EYFS. We provide a safe, nurturing, and stimulating environment where children feel secure to explore, take risks, and develop confidence in themselves and their abilities.

In embracing these principles, we strive to ensure a vibrant EYFS community at St. Augustine's Catholic Academy, where children are empowered to flourish academically, spiritually, and personally, laying the foundation for a lifetime of achievement and fulfilment.

Gospel Values Vision for EYFS:

Hope fills our hearts as we embark on this journey together, believing in the boundless potential of every child to grow and thrive. With **courage**, we embrace challenges and opportunities, fostering resilience and determination in our young learners. **Love** is the cornerstone of our community, where each child is welcomed with open arms and supported to develop a strong sense of belonging and self-worth. In our EYFS, we strive to exemplify **justice**, teaching our children to recognize and uphold fairness, equality, and the dignity of every individual. **Service** is woven into the fabric of our curriculum, instilling in our children a sense of responsibility towards others and a commitment to making positive contributions to the world around them. **Forgiveness** is embraced as a transformative force, teaching our children the power of reconciliation, empathy, and understanding. **Compassion** guides our interactions, nurturing a culture of kindness, empathy, and respect, celebrating the rich tapestry of diversity within our EYFS family. In our EYFS, we celebrate difference, fostering an inclusive environment where every child feels valued, supported, and celebrated for who they are.

Through our shared commitment to our Gospel Values, we aspire to encourage in our young learners a deep sense of purpose, a love for learning, and a readiness to embrace the challenges and joys of life with faith, resilience, and joy. Together, we journey in faith, nurturing hearts and minds to shine brightly as beacons of hope, love, and compassion in our world.