



LIVING OUR VISION AND VALUES

INTERACTIVE WORSHIP INSPIRED BY
PHOTOS OF VALUES IN ACTION

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INTRODUCTION

The inspiration for **Living Our Vision and Values** springs from a recognition that, whilst Church of England schools may have undergone a thorough and thoughtful process to establish a carefully crafted 'theologically rooted' Christian vision, it is only when the whole school community understands what it means to practically live this out day by day that real and lasting 'fruit' is produced.

For many schools, the primary way in which this fruit is recognised and its impact articulated, is when values such as compassion, hope, forgiveness, justice and courage become both the hallmark of relationships within the community, and at the same time, kindle a burning desire to make a transformational difference in the wider world.

Living Our Vision and Values has been created over a number of years with the children who feature in some of the focus photographs. These children have enthusiastically and honestly shared their ideas and insights about the Christian values that have been at the centre of their school communities. They have spoken, sometimes movingly, about the practical ways that values have informed the choices that they make and the ways in which they think about the challenges that face our planet.

Living Our Vision and Values is designed to support Imaginor's *Roots and Fruits* programme for Collective Worship but can equally be used as a stand-alone resource. There are two reflections for each of Imaginor's eighteen values: community, compassion, courage, dignity, forgiveness, friendship, generosity, hope, joy, justice, peace, perseverance, respect, service, thankfulness, trust, truthfulness and wisdom. Four elements comprise each act of worship: *Look, Learn, Reflect* and *Pray*. The main stimulus, a photograph of pupils expressing what their values 'look like' in a school context, ensures that the learning is rooted in children's own experience from the outset. Open questions are phrased to facilitate discussion about the *Words of Wisdom*, which may be a brief text from the Bible or a quote or proverb. Time is then given to reflect on the learning that has taken place. A short prayer concludes the act of worship. A final, optional, section entitled *Living It Out* provides an opportunity to explore and understand the Christian roots of the school's vision in relation to the theme of the worship and to ensure that the vision retains its relevance and focus.

Imaginor already produces several popular Collective Worship resources for Early Years and Key Stage 1 and so **Living Our Vision and Values** is aimed mainly at pupils in Years 3-6. We think it will be especially suitable for class and Key Stage worship.

Once they are familiar with the material, we hope that children will be inspired to take photographs that demonstrate how the school's vision and values are making a difference in their own community. Perhaps, using the *Look, Learn, Reflect* and *Pray* pattern they will go on to plan and lead their own acts of worship.

We would love to hear how it goes!

Shahne Vickery and the Imaginor Team



'You will know them by their fruits.'
Matthew 7.16



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COMMUNITY 1

LIVING IN HARMONY



LOOK

Take a few moments to look carefully at this photograph.

If you were to choose one word to sum up the image what would it be?



LEARN

Wise Words

Clothe yourselves with love which binds us together in perfect harmony.

Colossians 3:14 (paraphrase)

What does it *mean* to live in harmony in a **community**?

If we are living in harmony with one another, what will visitors to our school **see**?

What will they **hear**?

What will they **feel**?



REFLECT

What kinds of behaviour can break the bonds of harmony (stop people getting on together) in our school **community**?

What can we do to restore (bring back) harmony when things go wrong?



PRAY

Lord Jesus Christ,

Thank you for our school **community**.

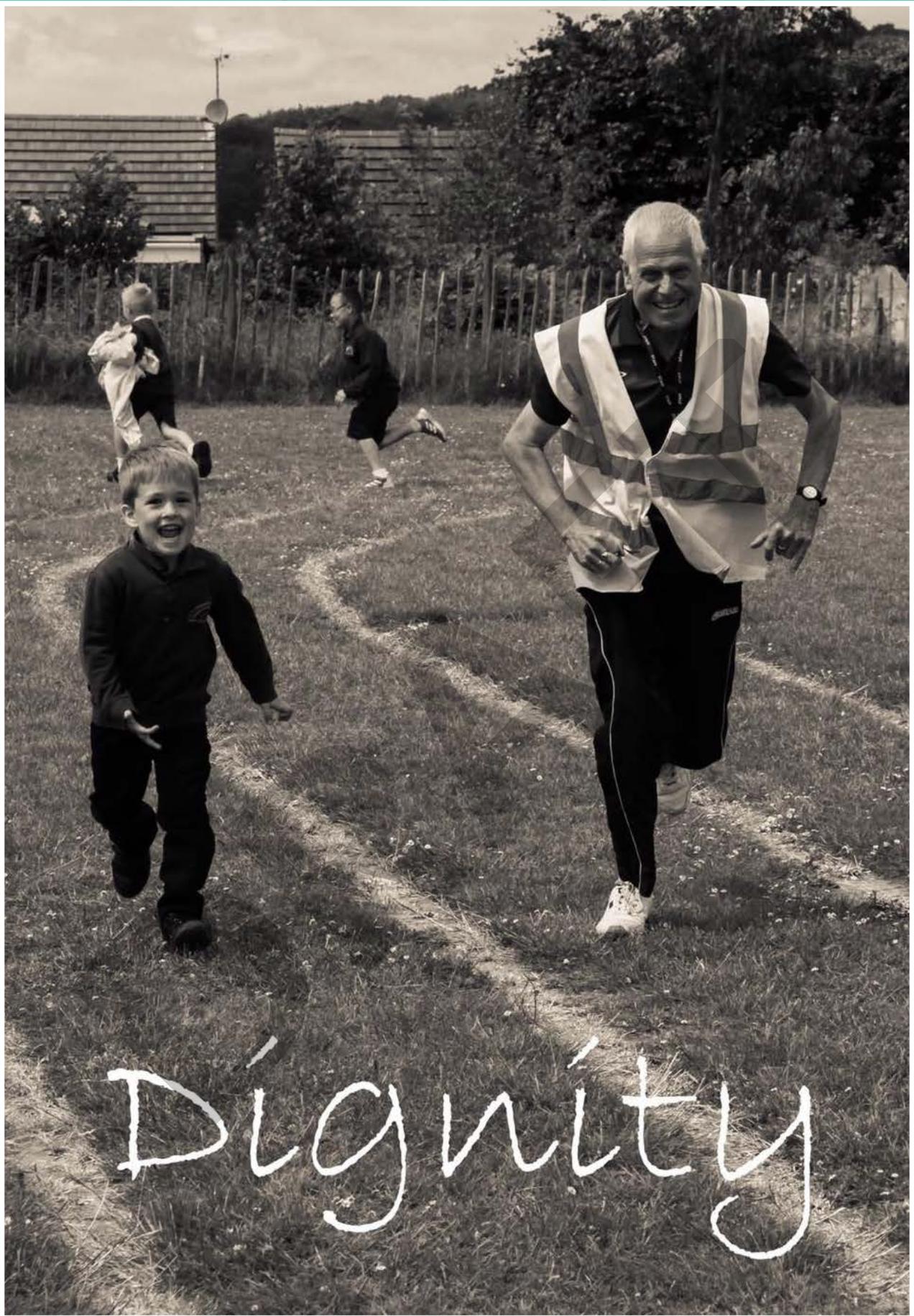
Help us to live together in a way that makes everyone feel valued, precious and loved.

Amen



LIVING IT OUT

How does working together in harmony help us to live out our school vision?



Dignity

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DIGNITY 2

ALL AGES TOGETHER



LOOK

Take a few moments to look carefully at this photograph.

Does it seem to you that the people in the photo are having fun together?
What makes you think this?



LEARN

The man in the picture is in his 70s. He is retired from his job and volunteers as a play leader in the school.

Do you think it is important for people from different generations to spend time together? Why?



REFLECT

The words from the Bible below, show that Jesus thought that grown-ups had a lot to learn from children.

Wise Words

The disciples came to Jesus and asked, 'Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?'

He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them and said, "Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven".

Matthew 18:1-3

When Jesus speaks to his followers about 'the kingdom of heaven', he is describing life when every person is treated with kindness, **dignity** and respect, however old or young they are.

What kinds of things do you think older people can learn from children?



PRAY

Lord Jesus,
You loved spending time with people of all ages and from all backgrounds.
Give us open hearts and minds, so that we do not judge others,
but treat everyone we meet with **dignity** and respect. Amen.



LIVING IT OUT

How can learning from people of different generations help us to live out our school vision?



Joy

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JOY

CELEBRATION



LOOK

Take a few moments to look carefully at this photograph.

Why do you think the boy might have won this cup?

Joyful would be one word to describe how the boy is feeling. Can you think of others?



LEARN

Wise Words

Rejoice with those who rejoice.

Romans 12:5

In the Bible, St Paul tells the followers of Jesus to 'Rejoice'.

'Rejoice' is a word we don't often use. What do you think it means?

Why do you think it is important to celebrate achievements in your school community?



REFLECT

Sometimes people's achievements go unnoticed because they don't necessarily win cups or competitions. What kinds of things might these be?

How does your school find out about and mark or celebrate these kinds of achievements?



PRAY

Lord Jesus,

You loved to celebrate and to bless others.

Help us to be generous with our praise and encouragement as we share in the **joy** of our friends.

Give us wisdom as we seek out and recognise achievements that might go unnoticed and unmarked.

Amen



LIVING IT OUT

How does celebrating all kinds of different achievements help us to live out our school vision?