



Courageous Advocacy

What is a courageous advocate?

A courageous advocate is someone who champions a cause which is special and meaningful to them.

Here at St Hilda's CE Primary School, we have a strong emphasis on encouraging our pupils to become courageous advocates, not just locally, but nationally and globally.

Part of life is that we all face challenges and need support to help us overcome these barriers. Our Personal Learning Goals help to guide pupils and help them develop through the following values: collaboration, resilience, empathy, ethical, adaptable, communication, respectful and thinker.

These personal goals will reinforce the fact it is important to help others, regardless of where they are from, their challenges or who they are. We teach this through the teachings of the bible and learning about other courageous advocates. Our curriculum promotes Christian values and has planned opportunities to enable children discuss and debate the big issues, challenge injustice and engage in activities that bring

Our Christian values and carefully planned opportunities in our curriculum ensure that the children regularly discuss and debate the big issues, to challenge injustice and to engage in activities that can bring about change are always present.

“Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.”

Proverbs 31:8-9

It is important for our children to appreciate their role as part of a community; to take responsibility, to be able to look after themselves & to foster an understanding of their importance, impact and influence in the world.

We support a range of charities in our local area, nationally and globally. The school council work with staff, governors, parents, pupils and St. Hilda's Church to identify worthy causes to support.



In recent years we have carried out a range of different fund raising to support many good causes, some of which include:

- a local food bank
- Sports Relief;
- Comic Relief;
- Harvest food festival donations
- Children in Need;
- Macmillan;
- The Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.
- WW remembrance day readings at the cenotaph
- Collective worship planning – children
- Equality – Black History Month, Women's Day, our IPC plans in diversity
- Christian Aid
- As a trust, we support The Big Issue
- We recycle clothes for Africa (clothes bin on site) and invite an African Choir to perform every few years to raise money for them.
- We are a silver award eco-schools and woodlands tree awards
- School council

Our children have an excellent grasp on the meaning of belonging to a local and global community and the sense of responsibility that comes with belonging. Thereby developing their ability to empathise and make a small sacrifice to benefit others. Together we consider the beauty and fragility of our environment, the actions we take, and the impact these actions may have on the well-being of everyone. Our school community and curriculum actively embrace a responsibility for the world in which we live. We are diligent to show our connection with, and care for, the world in which we all live and care for the people who live in it:

- Links with the local care home (reading; Christmas carols; learning about life in the past...)
- Charities of significance to our children;
- Student Council who seek the views of pupils as to which causes we want to support;
- Strong PTA with community events such as Christmas and Summer Fairs, discos and film nights;
- School advertises and supports local events;



Within our community our school is a beacon of light that stands up for what it believes in. Our Christian values and British values ensure that opportunities to discuss current world issues, to challenge injustice and to engage in activities that can bring about change are always present, such as:

- Anti-Bullying Week
- Internet Safety activities
- British Values Day
- Equality: learning about people from different cultures who have faced adversity
- Remembrance activities
- National days of commemoration i.e. VE Day
- Recycling
- Curriculum topics including rainforests, deforestation, and endangered animals

Examples of courageous advocacy by members of our school can be found below:

One child raised a substantial sum of money for fundraising against cancer. A cause which they are passionate about supporting.



Children made cards and ornaments during lockdown for the elderly



Children wanted to fundraise to help Ukrainian refugees. We collected money, food, clothing and toiletry donations.

Support Ukraine.

Every class will plant a sunflower to show our support.

Suggested items to donate:
Blankets, toiletries, warm clothing, tinned/dry food, baby clothing, shoes, towels, bedding etc

Friday 25th March
Wear yellow and blue
and bring £ or an item to donate

Money will be donated to Christian Aid. Donations will be sent to help those in need.



Thank you so much to everyone that donated today, we raised an amazing **£518.79** to help the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.

Big thank you to our Year 6's for running the collection points.



Eco-Committee and Environmental Work

We have received funding as one of only 6 schools across Manchester to fund and set up an eco-committee project. The children will lead this alongside Miss Cole and a representative from the 'The Green Schools Project' company to drive sustainability and environmental issues across school. Pupils learned a lot about the environment during an eco assembly and are eager to make a difference. Further to this, we will also be planting trees donated by the Woodland Trust to support our interest in environmental issues, bio diversity, and also improving the school grounds. Further information to follow once we have a date to share with you all.

We have had an assembly led by the charity Living Streets who have encouraged us to make and promote an active lifestyle. Children have been walking to school, and earning their badges for contributing to actively reduce pollution levels around school. We thank families again for not parking outside the school gates and helping to reduce pollution levels for the children.

A big thank you to Year 6 children for their courageous advocacy. They worked with Miss McCoy to hand out flyers to cars which were standing stationary outside school. We were impressed by their courteous behaviour and communication with the drivers as they explained why they shouldn't be blocking the road or letting the engines idle as they wait.

Children will participate in an assembly with CICD to learn about their volunteer work in Zambia. There will be a clothes bank based on site where we ask you to donate your old shoes, clothes and bedding to support this fantastic cause. We are still accepting old uniform and clothing, and the money raised from this will be shared between The Salvation Army and St Hilda's playground and outdoor area for KS2. Please bring all clean donated items to Mrs Olayinka.

Tree Planting



The Hub planted trees on the premises and members of St Hilda's Eco-Committee, School Council and International Council (Student Voice) assisted. This is part of their drive to make St Hilda's environmentally friendly. Thank you to members of the Hub who supported this by preparing the ground so the children could plant the trees. Trees were donated by Woodlands Trust #everytreecounts campaign. A special thank you to Stuart Gibson who assisted by advising where best to plant the trees (Hazel, Rowan and Crab Apple), and also obtaining special support from the Unicorn Grocery.

We are also gratefully accepting donations of soil, planters and gardening equipment. Please contact the school office or the hub if you would like to donate in this way.



Plant a Tree.

As part of our continued effort to improve the air quality around school and promote and educate pupils on eco-matters, St Hilda's will be planting trees on the premises on 29th November at 9:00 – 10:00 am. We invite you to come along and help plant trees kindly donated by The Woodland Trust as part of their #plantamilliontrees campaign.



Children in Need

A HUGE 'thank you' for all of your kind donations to this year's Children In Need event. The School Council sold a lot of wristbands and many children wore yellow in support of the charity. Our grand total is **£381.93**. You're all fantastic!



Remembrance Sunday

Children visited and cenotaph with Rev Ross for Remembrance Sunday. Pupils gave readings at the service and were wonderful representatives of St Hilda's. We thank you for your poppy donations which raised an amazing £373.03.





Big School Clean Up

Come and join us on 27th March, as we participate in the UK's 'Big School Clean Up'. Our eco-committee and volunteers will meet from 9:00 - 10:30am to go litter picking. If you would like to help out, please bring some gloves. Litter picks and rubbish bags will be provided.

Residents who live in Trafford can order litter picks for free from the council for home use or for you to tidy your local area.

<https://www.trafford.gov.uk/residents/transport-and-streets/street-care-and-cleaning/the-be-responsible-pledge.aspx>

