



News Release

Warrington School's Work Tackling Global Poverty Recognised with Christian Aid Award

Pupils at St Barnabas have been presented with a Bronze Award from Christian Aid's Global Neighbours Scheme for their global citizenship work.

From raising awareness about plastic waste to volunteering in the local community, pupils and staff at St Barnabas Primary School have been working hard to take their place as global citizens.

St Barnabas Church of England Primary School in Warrington has achieved Bronze Award status in Christian Aid's [Global Neighbours scheme](#) in recognition of its wide-ranging steps to love their global neighbour.

The accreditation scheme celebrates schools that are helping pupils learn about global poverty and the Christian responsibility to tackle it, as well as giving them the tools to play a confident part in creating a fairer world.

Mrs J Hodgkinson said: *"We are thrilled to be recognised for the work we have done as a whole school community to raise awareness of the extreme inequalities across our globe and perhaps more importantly, the steps we can take to address these. The pupils learn about global issues and encouraged to respond. Pupils have been concerned about the plight of the Rainforests and have been finding out more the consequences of deforestation and the loss of habitat for the animals that live there. Environmental concerns have been high on pupils' agendas and they have sought to reduce single use plastics in school.*

We took part in Christian Aid's scheme because it gives us a practical way of living out our school value of 'Preparing for a Positive Future – Achieved Through Faith'.

"Our world is increasingly connected and our hope is for our children to grow as responsible global citizens who care about issues such as the environment and access to healthcare. The children have especially enjoyed raising money for Christian Aid "

Caroline Weir, Education Coordinator at Christian Aid, said: "The Global Neighbours Scheme was launched in partnership with the Church of England's Education Office with a vision of helping young people understand more about the inequalities in this world and helping them to become courageous advocates for those who have no voice.

It's wonderful to see how staff and pupils at St Barnabas have taken this to heart and are seeking to tackle injustice.

"Christian Aid is also looking to recruit more volunteer teachers locally to go into schools to help us deliver the scheme. If you have experience of working with children and are excited about inspiring a new generation of agents of change, we would love to hear from you!"

Any primary school in England can join the Global Neighbours scheme. There are three levels of accreditation: bronze, silver and gold. These are verified by Church of England Education Office assessors, who look for evidence across five areas: school leadership, teaching and learning; collective worship and spiritual development; pupil participation; and community engagement.

Anyone interested in finding out more about the volunteer Christian Aid Teacher role can visit www.christianaid.org.uk/volunteering/become-christian-aid-teacher or contact their local Christian Aid office via the website www.christianaid.org.uk/get-involved-locally

1. Christian Aid works in some of the world's poorest communities in around 40 countries at any one time. We act where there is great need, regardless of religion, helping people to live a full life, free from poverty. We provide urgent, practical and effective assistance in tackling the root causes of poverty as well as its effects.

2. Christian Aid's core belief is that the world can and must be changed so that poverty is ended: this is what we stand for. Everything we do is about ending poverty and injustice: swiftly, effectively, sustainably. Our strategy document [Partnership for Change](#) explains how we set about this task.

3. Christian Aid is a member of the [ACT Alliance](#), a global coalition of more than 130 churches and church-related organisations that work together in humanitarian assistance, advocacy and development.

4. For more about Christian Aid's work, visit www.christianaid.org.uk