

## St. William of York Catholic Primary School

## Brockley Park, Forest Hill, London SE23 1PS

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Headteacher: Mrs Sharon Lynch Admin Officer: Mrs Sandra Casey

**Deputy Headteacher:** Miss Hayley Langston

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St William of York School stands united with the family, and friends, of George Floyd, who was unlawfully killed last week, in Minnesota, USA.

As a school community, we condemn any form of racism, discrimination and inequality.

We believe that all people are created in the image of God, and we respect and rejoice in the uniqueness of each and every child. We promise to work with parents, as first educators of their child, their wider families, and the community, to teach our children that we are all equal in the eyes of God.

## Jesus said:

'Love one another. Just as I have loved you, you are also to love one another.' (John 13:34)

As teachers, parents, and adults, who have such a great influence on the formation of young people, we must support our children to make the right choices, and to follow the right path so we can all live in harmony, regardless of our race, gender, age, sexuality or background.

We must live a life that sets a good example to our children, we must be aware of the power of our words and actions, and we ask God, our Father, to help and guide us.

Sharon Lynch (Headteacher)

## A joint statement from Lewisham Primary Headteachers

Lewisham Leaders stand together to condemn the unlawful murder of an innocent black man George Floyd in Minneapolis .

We stand united in our commitment to tackle and challenge racism, address inequality and call out discrimination.

<u>Black people are 40 times more likely to be stopped and searched in the UK. Young black people are nine times more likely to be locked up in England and Wales than their white counterparts, while BAME offenders are far more likely than others to be jailed for drug offences.</u>

As educators of a school population which is 76% Black and ethnic minority we cannot remain silent.

The murder of George Floyd must prompt careful reflection about racism in Britain today, and the extent to which it shapes our values, politics and economic life.

Our community needs and deserves to feel safe in the belief that its leaders condemn all acts of racism and violence and moreover that they believe racism is an abhorrence that we as Lewisham Leaders reject.

Lewisham Leaders have a duty to address systemic racism in our society and we uphold this in our united condemnation of the unlawful murder of an innocent black man George Floyd.