**Parent Views…**

**Who are we at Chester Blue Coat? What makes us Unique?**

\*Chester Blue Coat is diverse and inclusive. It welcomes, respects and celebrates people from all backgrounds. No one is left out and everyone learns from each other.

\*Our school is the best school because all staff are kind and co-operative.

\*Good team work

\*friendly relationships with children

\*a family

\*our community spirit

\*To us what makes Chester Blue Coat unique is proximity! It gives us a beautiful sense of community.

\*A truly diverse and multi-cultural school that strives for inclusivity.  I think many schools profess to offer this but I see, hear and experience Chester Blue Coat actually living this.  Examples are broad and include:- translation of messages;  celebration of different holidays; children’s stories of what makes them different (alopecia poster) etc

\*A strong sense of community, a keen interest being part of and giving back to the local community.

\*Supporting & participating in events and causes, trips to local activities, inviting in local people to talk to the children.

**Why are we here at Chester Blue Coat? What is our purpose?**
\*The school exists to help children to discover their passions, talents and interests and to support them in achieving their potential.

\*It is there to teach children what it means to be global citizens and to practise respect, tolerance and kindness for others.

\*to teach

\*It is there to build resilience in children so they can endure and learn from life's inevitable setbacks.

\*It is there to make the learning process enjoyable so that children will go on to be life-long learners.

\* to safeguard the children.

\* to help and support the children and teach them about values and how we should behave towards each other.

\*We are here mainly for two things: first, as we said before, proximity: we have many neighbours that send their kids to Chester Blue Coat and we thought it would be nice that our children would have that sense of familiarity and community when they are at school; finally, although we were hesitant at first (the school is very big and religious), our neighbours talked very highly of it and we loved the school when we visited it.

Our purpose is always to have the best education possible for our children.

To help shape the future generation to be kind, courageous and considerate of people, the planet and the communities we live in.

**What do we want to achieve?**
\*A caring community where each child feels safe, secure, heard, understood and valued.

\*High standards of education so that each child gets the opportunity to meet their own unique potential.

\*Mentally resilient young people who are equipped with the tools and skills to tackle whatever life throws at them.

\*solid learning foundation to teach and care for all children

\*a positive environment where children will thrive

\*provide a nurturing environment for the pupils

\* teaching the children how to behave towards each other

\*Raising independent kids that are able to learn new things by themselves and are able to see things with a critical eye; that are empathic, sociable and respect and care about others.

\*If my children have difficulties or struggles with something, I have the certainty that the school will do a great job helping them overcome those.

\*Balanced, thoughtful, resilient children who are conscious of the positive impact they can bring to everyone and everything they touch.

**What do you know about God that fits with our whole school context?**
\*God means different things to different people, and we should respect one another's beliefs or lack thereof.

\*God is the creator. Children in the school are interested in finding out about different religions and cultures.

\*Our school encourages all religions and their customs.

\*the school gives back to the community and offers a safe space for family and care

**\*God in any religion is thought to be omnipotent, eternal, that knows everything, immutable and good.**

**\*In Christianity, which is what we are more familiar with at home, it is believed that Jesus spread the word of God, and he talked about love and forgiveness, and he spoke for the poor and oppressed.**

**\*Chester Bluecoat School identifies as core values some of these teachings and has addressed them in the past. We think teaching kids about that is absolutely marvellous, and we are very keen that our children learn such values (love, forgiveness, caring about less fortunate people, peace, thankfulness, etc) and also about religious cultures (not only Christian).**

**\*We believe that learning about different faiths and cultures teaches our kids to love and accept everybody the way they are.**

**An anecdote from a parent to emphasise the work we do here at CBC…**

*“Although I did write out answers to all of the questions, I think this sums it up best and answers them all! A while ago the girls were in the supermarket with me there was a deaf man with his first ‘hearing’ guide dog and he had a lovely lady with him. The girls spoke directly to him and he explained he was lip reading as it was too loud for his hearing aid. They engaged with him, asked him questions and really enjoyed talking to them. The lady said that the girls were amazing. I explained that the school the girls go to is very inclusive and diverse and everyone plays and learns together.*

*In the first lockdown we walked up to the shop one day and there was an old man weeding his front lawn. My child asked if she could say hello so he wasn’t lonely. They chatted for a while and both had a better day because of it.*

*God is inclusive to everyone; I think that’s what Chester Blue Coat is trying to achieve. I hope I’m giving the girls the best start but Blue Coat is certainly half the reason they are kind and caring to all- no matter what anyone looks like or where they have come from. The school are teaching that we are all the same but different.”*