

Christian Value for Term 4 is **Compassion**.

We show compassion in everything we say and do.

What is compassion?

There's a lot of overlap between compassion and kindness but, if someone is compassionate, they are more than simple kind. Compassion is defined as 'having a strong feeling of sympathy and concern for the suffering and misfortunes of others and a wish to help them.'

Empathy is also closely linked to compassion, although it is not the same thing. The phrase 'walking in the shoes of others' is commonly associated with compassion. Empathetic people can 'put themselves into other people's shoes' and think about how they would feel if they were in that same given situation; compassionate people will help to make the situation better for them.

A Christian perspective on compassion

Christians believe that their attitudes and actions must reflect the kindness, mercy and compassion of Jesus and the love of God for everyone. Christians believe that because Jesus suffered greatly, he understands our suffering. Like Jesus, we experience hard times so that we have increased compassion and understanding for others.

This term at Northleaze, we will use 'The Good Samaritan' (Luke 10) scripture story to explore what compassion looks and feels like. Here is a link to a simple [animation](#) if you are unfamiliar with the story.



Lamentations 3:11



Think about:

- How do you show compassion to your family and friends?
- How can you show compassion in your neighbourhood or community?
- Could you get involved with any local charities or give to foodbanks?



If you want others to be happy, practice compassion.
If you want to be happy, practice compassion. - Dalai Lama

