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YEAR TWO

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We meet God's love in the community

AIM To describe how we are growing and developing diverse communities that are God-given.

KEY WORDS community, local, global, impact, responsibility, harm, improve, God-given, belonging, family, diverse, father, mother, carer, guardian, feelings, recognise, emotions, friendships, relationships, secrets, stereotypes, respect, equal.

SKILLS listening, observing, relating, speaking, respecting, praying, reflecting, understanding, describing, recognising, informing, forgiving.

■ Social and Emotional

Learning intention To recognise the joy and friendship of belonging to a diverse community.

Introduction and content

Diverse communities are described as not only of different ethnicities, races, and religions, but also different social backgrounds, locations, and life experiences. We must recognise the importance of respecting the ways we are the same as and different from others e.g. physically, in character, personality, background, beliefs, preferences and choices.

The joy of friendship is one of life's gifts and a grace from God, as Pope Francis asserts in *Christus Vivit*, (*Christ is Alive*, n.151). Through our friends the Lord meets us and leads us to maturity. Faithful friends, who stand at our side in times of difficulty, are also a reflection of the Lord's love, his gentle and consoling presence in our lives. The experience of friendship teaches us to be open, understanding, caring towards others, to come out of our comfortable isolation and to share our lives with others.