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**Prayers for Schools**

*Before the service identify individuals willing to take part by leading in the following prayers.*

**Adult**

Thank you that we can meet today to support those in our church family who are going back to school. Thank you for the Parable of the Good Samaritan and what we have learned today about the need to love you and love others as we love ourselves. We thank you for Jesus, who loved us so much that he gave himself for us on the cross, dying for our sins and being resurrected to glory, so that we can be forever with you. Please help us to love you more each day and to follow your example in loving others. Help us to react with love, kindness, and compassion when a situation arises and we are faced with someone in need. Help us not to be judgmental, but humbly give of our time, energy, and other resources to support them. As we pause for a few moments just now, help us to think of people who need our kindness. We lift them to you in prayer.

*Short pause.*

**Student**

Heavenly Father, we pray for our Headteachers, teachers and all staff in our school communities. There are many different jobs people do to make the school day happen, and we thank you for each one who works so hard. Give them the skills and good health they need to carry out their tasks and help them to enjoy their work. We pray that when staff shortages arise, they will be quickly filled, and that you would call more Christians into teaching. We thank you for those who serve on Parent Councils or Management Teams in our local schools. Help them make good and wise decisions. And we thank you for volunteers, who give their time and resources to help in schools. We pray particularly for lots of opportunities this coming year for them to visit and share their faith in lessons, assemblies, SU Groups and other activities. Give them favour in school we pray.

**Primary Pupil**

Heavenly Father, thank you that Jesus is the best teacher of all. Help us to be good students and to listen to your voice and teachings in the Bible. We want to be really kind to others and be like the Good Samaritan, loving people, no matter who they are. We pray for all pupils going to school this term, and those who are learning at home. We think of those starting nursery, school, college, or university. Help them to settle quickly and make good friends. Thank you that you are with us all at this exciting time, and that we go back to school with you.

**All:** **Amen.**