*‘Serve the Lord in Gladness’*

**Learning Outside the Classroom**

**Mission Statement**

*“The best classroom and the richest cupboard is roofed only by the sky.” (Margaret Macmillan 1929)*

At St. Augustine’s we strongly believe that the unique, fluid and natural beauty of the great outdoors strongly benefits the well-being and education of every child. We continually strive to provide all of our children with memorable and exciting experiences beyond the classroom to enhance their learning, involvement and enjoyment of every aspect of their education. We ensure every child has regular access to outdoor learning experiences, linked to all areas of their curriculum, within the school grounds and beyond.

There are numerous benefits to Learning Outside the Classroom for all our children, including those with Special Educational Needs, such as:

* Consolidating learning through real life, practical activities
* Aiding transition to new places and situations
* Increasing motivation and willingness to learn
* Developing confidence and self-awareness
* Developing social and communication skills
* Meeting different challenges and becoming more independent
* Demonstrating achievement – through awards, displays and presentations

Work that takes place outside of the classroom can provide a very powerful means of developing learning in all curriculum areas, and thus can raise attainment.

