



St Matthew's Vision

Christ is at the centre of our school

Children are at the centre of all that we do

Let the little children come to me – start them off on the way they should go

– and they will spread their wings and soar like eagles

(Luke 18:16; Proverbs; Isaiah 40:31)

Our vision and values are at the very heart of our whole school curriculum, underpinning teaching and learning as well as ensuring a strong, cohesive community that nurtures and develops happy, confident and successful learners.

Love and relationships are at the heart as we provide opportunity for spiritual development through development of their voice and stories, as they learn to reflect on self, others, beauty and beyond. Time for reflection, response and exploration is given for children to share and to learn from others.

As Jesus said, ***Let the little children come to me***, we have inclusive, open arms that welcome all children in the local community

As Proverbs tells us, ***Start them off on the way they should go***, so our Christian values-based curriculum, with high standards of teaching and learning enables all children to succeed, to reach their full potential academically, spiritually, and personally by the end of Key Stage One, being ready to move on to their next stage in education.

Opportunities for spiritual development are mapped across the curriculum, ensuring that children develop a range of skills that enable them to flourish in their learning and in their life.

As Isaiah tells us, ***and they will spread their wings and soar like eagles***, so we endeavour for our children grow in self-confidence and self-awareness of themselves as thinkers and learners now and for the future

We believe that children express their spirituality through telling stories and we provide time for them to tell their stories and to listen to those of others, learning together from shared stories that have value. We use the Andrew Rickett model of *The Red Kite: Telling the Story*, a framework for spirituality, which defines four aspects of how children talk about their spirituality through their stories:

Self

Others

Beauty

Beyond

These are connected through relationship, with love at the heart.

Children learn about their personal narrative with their stories reflecting who they are, shaping a sense of identity. We place value on giving children time to share and to listen to each other's stories and to learn from them.

