

*A Church of England school's Christian vision should be based on and reflect a Christian understanding of the nature of God and how it motivates, underpins and expresses the school's service to its community.*

### **Our Christian vision is...**

To give every child an unforgettable high-quality education through our strong Christian ethos. This is centred on three core values: Courage, Care and Compassion, which are firmly embedded in the daily life of our school. We pride ourselves on our welcoming, family atmosphere where children feel supported, safe and valued. All children are encouraged to be independent thinkers and to have a genuine voice within the school. We want them to 'belong'. We encourage our children to be confident learners with good reading, writing and maths skills who enjoy participating in a broad thematic curriculum that makes the most of our rural setting.

### **Our Vision is reflected through our ethos underpinned by our Christian core values:**

**COURAGE:** *The account of Jesus calming the storm provides a story for children to understand how the disciples, in the sinking boat faced overwhelming fears. But when Jesus so quickly calmed the storm, their fears were quickly replaced with awe and worship. Many of us—especially children—carry the burden of fear, perhaps not realizing that we can find places of calm and safety, just as Christians find calm and safety in Jesus. Having courage will give us the strength to keep calm and focus on the things that really matter.* **Mark 4:35-41**

### **In the life of our school it also means that we...**

- try new things
- love learning new skills and concepts
- overcome obstacles
- have a go
- are happy to make mistakes
- persevere when the going gets tough
- make new friends
- stick up for what is right
- lead by example

**COMPASSION:** *As a Church of England school, we believe in serving our community based on the love of God for everyone including ourselves. This means that we are an inclusive school who welcomes all and accepts ourselves when we fail. In doing this we draw heavily upon Jesus' teaching from John 15.12 where Jesus commands that we love as he has loved.*

### **In the life of our school it also means that we...**

- are kind towards ourselves when we make mistakes
- take care of ourselves by keeping healthy and safe
- understand our emotions and how to express them
- extend kindness, understanding and tolerance to others

**CARE:** *As a Church of England school, we believe in caring for the planet as The Lord God asked us to in Genesis 2.15.*

### **In the life of our school it also means that we...**

- foster a love of the outdoors
- appreciate the countryside and learn how to look after it
- understand how to take action to protect our planet

## Summary Statement

**Our Vision reflects our belief about ourselves and each other.** We as a staff believe in supporting one another to flourish. This is demonstrated in our performance management plan and monitoring and support timetable where staff are given training and support; they are shown care and compassion when challenges arise to solve them to the best of their ability. We have embedded a coaching philosophy linked with our growth mindset value, Courage, which supports all staff to give and receive honest feedback in a trusting environment. This is evidenced through the journey of our school over the last three years and the progress in, not only pupil progress data, but also staff audits. We are a team and pupils say the school feels like “one big family”.

**Our Vision reflects our belief about the world** through our core values Care and Compassion where pupils and staff are encouraged to demonstrate courageous advocacy through how they can make a difference for the better, locally, nationally and globally:

- singing at local care homes
- recycling in school
- raising money for charity
- taking an interest in our planet and discovering ways in which we can help locally and globally through our club Planet Protectors, assemblies and our PSHE Jigsaw lessons
- developing positive attitudes towards issues of justice and equality through finding out about people through history who have stood up for what is right

**Our Vision is lived out in...**

- governors consider our core values when making decisions for the school at every FGB meeting
- the core values are embedded in our school policies
- our curriculum reflects our core values and has been designed with these in mind – they are our drivers
- we have a strong PSHE curriculum Jigsaw which supports our Courage value based on a positive growth mindset which all staff model in their daily lives
- staff are supported and share how they reflect these values in their own lives and these events are celebrated such as endurance events, setting personal goals (the school PB challenge) and raising money for charity
- our strong connection with our local church and our respect and studies of different beliefs and faiths.

**Our Christian vision has been developed by our pupils, parents and governors.**

Approved by Governors/Local Governing Body: February 2020

Due to be reviewed: February 2022

**Primary linked documents:**

- RE policy
- Collective worship policy
- Relationships and Sex Education policy
- PSHE and well-being policy
- teaching and learning policy
- Behaviour and inclusion policy
- Performance Management policy
- Governors code of conduct