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Chesterton CE Primary School Vision and Values

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

We hope you agree that our whole school values (Respect, Compassion, Resilience, Hope, Integrity and Humility); are very much embedded into everyday school life at Chesterton.

<https://www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk/valuesEthos.php>

Our School Values remind us how we should live our lives, both in and out of school, and encourage us to think about others, as well as ourselves. Each term, we discuss a different value (and linked themes) with the pupils during Collective Worship to encourage a deeper understanding of their meaning and how they relate to life in school and 'in the real world'. We also award certificates – alongside our ever-popular 'Well Dones' – for pupils (and staff) who have displayed one of our values.

Alongside our School Values, we are also required to articulate our 'Vision' for Chesterton Primary School. In recent years, this has been done through a Vision Statement (a list of aims). <https://www.chestertonprimaryschool.org.uk/visionStatement.php> . On this page, please also note the Governor Vision which explains the key priorities for our governing board and guides the strategic decisions that the school makes.

However, as advice from the Diocese has evolved in recent years, it has become clear that our School Vision needs to be expressed more succinctly, and in a way that all stakeholders can understand. When we receive our Church School inspection (SIAMS), this is fundamental to the judgement made about the school: *"SIAMS explores ways in which each school's theologically rooted Christian vision drives the work, and enables the school to live up to its foundation as a Church school."*

Therefore, we have been working hard behind the scenes with pupils, staff, governors and our clergy team to define exactly what we believe to be important. These discussions have led us to settle on:

"Building Firm Foundations For Life"

This is linked to the Bible story of 'The Man Who Built His House on the Rock' (Matthew 7: 24-27), but we also felt that the phrase lived up to our duty as a Church School to be open to the whole community; those of all faiths or none. We also feel that it encapsulates the way that we aim to prepare our pupils for their future in the most complete way possible.



To help the pupils understand the meaning of our Vision Statement, we can discuss the idea that each of our Values provides 'firm foundations for life', both in and out of school. We have begun to discuss what this means with the pupils in school, but there is obviously more work to do in order to ensure that this Vision Statement becomes as meaningful and well-understood as our Values. You may also have spotted our eye-catching mosaic on the Year 5/6 classroom building, which shows the house on the rock, which is made up of our 6 values.

In the coming months and years, please look out for references to our Vision statement as it becomes part of our vocabulary at school. We are also hoping to hold an Art Competition in the near future to give pupils a chance to express their interpretation of our Vision Statement.

Meanwhile, we hope you will agree that your child/ren is receiving an education and wider experience that lives up to our Vision Statement.

If you have any comments or questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. Horner – Headteacher

