

St. Michael's Church School

SECTION 1: VISION & LEADERSHIP

Biblical teaching roots, Vision & Values

At St Michael's Church School, we have chosen 10 of our own Christian School Values which we feel as a school are a priority in supporting our children as Children of God.

Our School Values are : Friendship, Compassion, Respect, Resilience, Perseverance, Excellence, Faith, Responsibility, Happiness and Honesty.

We have taken time to choose Biblical verses to match our values, so it helps to deepen our children's understanding of what God wants from His children. We further embed these values through teaching our children stories from the Bible which give great examples of the values.

Below are some links to the Bible stories which connect with our School Values, they have been explored in class through Collective Worship and Classroom Practice.

Excellence:

- Creation story https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ1Fd_SPC18
- Joshua <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqhPOd0JxBs&t=15s>
- King Solomon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ihnnK9vQ3nM>
- Jesus calms the storm <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYLHqdSO9OY>
- Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builder https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CXWHLB1f6_U

Friendship:

- Noah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzYjy6lhRag>
- Daniel and the lions den https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEM_X25DWPk&t=4s
- Ruth and Naomi <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=irThVpdeSXk>
- Fishes of Men <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F120aeswBx0>
- Feeding 5000 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6rj9cAJrWE>
- Peter, John and the cripple <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=orp4ZT9710Y>
- The Last Supper <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SigoALSS1R8>

Compassion:

- Parable of the Good Samaritan <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=osfQg4yKta8>
- The Golden Rule – Luke 6:27-31 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ze7w3-BL3OM&t=40s>

- Jesus heals the blind man – Luke 9:27-31 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4qZ2KSbdxI>
- Parable of The Prodigal Son – Luke 15:11-32 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DJgROx4wFKM>
- Jesus healing the 10 lepers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LzZUDRrKgI8>
- Zacchaeus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BjtbJFz2ug>
- Peter and the soldier's ear <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ppb9bKX1r7k&t=1s>

Respect:

- Adam and Eve <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l7TDvJrjz0>
- Moses and the 10 plagues <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJleW4TCQM0>
- 10 commandments <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oXDZXfZpjfg>
- Jesus is baptised by John https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_dr9njvzKM&t=75s
- Sermon on the Mount <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ze7w3-BL3OM&t=25s>
- Jesus in the temple as a boy https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho_3gvIWzbw
- Jesus washes his disciple's feet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv5qjWNmt4&t=1s>
- Jesus adds a new commandment https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=db-IE_f2U5I

Resilience

- Noah's ark <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzYjy6lhRag>
- Nehemiah walls <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdDvqWtVkro>
- Moses in the desert <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzN1ijiFnIA>
- Moses and the 10 plagues <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GJleW4TCQM0>
- Jesus is tempted in the desert <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mc-x4qKY6Wc>
- Jesus praying in the garden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9y2p0CAUfUw>

Perseverance

- Abraham and Sarah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzN1ijiFnIA>
- Moses leading out of Egypt <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NieC8KA0EvI>
- Walls of Jericho <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruqGz1480uc>
- Samuel and Eli <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P13uIsFW7OA>
- Elijah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2T5gAXoerjw>
- Jesus is tempted in the desert <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mc-x4qKY6Wc>
- Jesus praying in the garden <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9y2p0CAUfUw>
- Jesus' crucifixion <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL8R158Ujp4&t=5s>
- Jesus' resurrection <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cZ4gQniUVO8>

Faith

- Noah's ark <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qzYjy6lhRag>
- Abraham and Sarah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IzN1ijiFnIA>
- Gideon <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c3CDZjpkDKU>
- Samson <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcTgzQAeuZo>
- Jonah and the whale <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WOSadLyqshg>
- Daniel and the lions https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bEM_X25DWPk&t=17s
- Jesus' is promised to Mary <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XkEypzmHwCI>
- Jesus is found in the temple as a child https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ho_3gvIWzbw
- Jesus walks on water <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVy9HGr3Qig>
- Jesus' transfiguration <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC081rBhFsE>
- St Paul <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rLZ67inPx-4>
- Road to Emmaus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3QkZsKLU2o>

Responsibility

- Adam and Eve <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VG3D9EOwSyc>
- Tower of Babel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uvv1tKqm2g>
- Joshua <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vqhPOd0JxBs&t=31s>
- Nehemiah walls <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HdDvqWtVkro&t=160s>
- Magi visit Jesus and deliver gifts https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poswRRB_2i0&t=201s

- Jesus is baptised by John https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9_dr9njVzKM&t=75s
- Mary and Martha <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AQGKLA4AfXs&t=46s>
- Jesus washes his disciple's feet <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bv5qjWNrt4&t=3s>
- Jesus arrested <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL8R158Ujp4&t=15s>

Happiness

- Creation https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yZ1Fd_SPC18
- Abraham and Sarah <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DD9VOaErVxg>
- Moses and the burning bush <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ds9y3lJGig&t=13s>
- God's son is born https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=poswRRB_2i0&t=201s
- Wedding at Galilee https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7plJa_qnVug
- Jesus' transfiguration <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dC081rBhFsE>
- Road to Emmaus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K3QkZsKLU2o>
- Jesus visits his disciples after his resurrection https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_QcGnwilXI
- Jesus ascends to Heaven <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UcFw8pLBSIo&t=3s>

Honesty

- Elisha and Naaman <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jkUI-1S9wrU>
- Jacob and Esau <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hGs1WfRKIoM>
- Joseph's brothers <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xp4Fym1KImY>
- Naboth's vineyard <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xqyNQCVYIUE>
- Zacchaeus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BjtbJFz2ug>
- Peter and Jesus <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ppb9bKX1r7k&t=3s>
- Jesus appears to his disciples – Doubting Thomas https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A_QcGnwilXI

Christian Ethos.

At St Michael's we are a church school family - actually living each day, all that a family might uphold and instil. We want the very best for everyone in our school and community regardless of whether they are a child or an adult; we nurture gifts and talents and closely support those areas of living and learning together that might be that bit harder to achieve. We actively encourage children and staff to grow as kind, compassionate people who show perseverance and resilience as they work towards achieving their full potential. This we find, makes children and adults very happy to come to our school every day and we enjoy working together and being a positive influence on each other's lives."

Therefore our vision is:

"To Be the Best that we can be."

Linked directly to the Bible as;

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though working for the Lord" Colossians 3:23

Our Ethos Statement

St Michael's Church School - Ethos Statement

Since 1999 every maintained school has a constitutional document called the 'Instrument of Government'. The Instruments of schools with a 'religious character' contain a statement of ethos which describes the identity and purpose of the school.

Nationally, there are about 4,800 schools (Voluntary Aided or Voluntary Controlled) which share a common Church of England identity and so use a common Ethos Statement (or one very like it).

This is the Ethos Statement of our Church of England School:

Recognising its historic foundation, the school will preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level.

The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice. It encourages an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promotes Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils.

Our Headteacher

Mrs Smith joined the St.Michael's family in September 2018. She had previously been Headteacher of another CoE school in south Cambridgeshire.

Alongside the RE subject leader, Mrs Smith plans and creates the programme of Collective Worship for each half term. She enjoys creating a series of assemblies that help the children to gain knowledge of the Bible whilst seeing how this can apply to their everyday lives.

She meets regularly with Reverend Carol to discuss school life and to develop and extend the links between school, church and the community. The joint enterprise of a Café for parents has been planned to take place as soon as Covid restrictions allow.

Mrs Smith also supports the work of the Diocese as an EDRA (Ely Diocese Regional Advisor) where she supports three local leaders of Church Schools.

In addition, she is also a member of SACRE (Standing advisory council for religious education) where she represents Church of England schools. She has been a member of SACRE for 11 years. (7 for Cambridgeshire and 4 for Peterborough.) This body has representatives from all faiths and none and exists to: determine religious education content in maintained schools by producing a locally agreed syllabus and reviewing it every five years and to advise on matters of collective worship.



Our RE Link Governor

Mr Bongani Matjeke is a local Cardea resident and Father to 5 year old daughter (student of St Michaels), and a 2 year old son. In day-to-day life, Mr Matjeke is a Professional man, who holds a degree in Psychology with years of experience in brain injury rehabilitation and neurofeedback technician. In his spare time, he enjoys renovating gardens and is the founder of Glamourboy landscaping services.

Mr Matjeke joined St Michaels Church school as RE Link Governor late 2021. He has always played an active role in his local church (UCKG Helpcentre) in which he led the prison outreach ministry for over 5 years and supported the pre-teen male members through a discipleship programme. This involved mentoring and reintegrating ex juvenile offenders into the community.

Mr Matjeke now volunteers in various church-led community outreach programmes including Soup Kitchens & Night Angels in which he helps to provide warmth and food to those without shelter.

Mr Matjeke is very passionate about Religious Education and feels it plays a prominent role in nurturing values, self awareness, respect, and understanding for others in the students. Therefore, he sees the role of RE link Governor as an opportunity to learn, develop new skills and further contribute to the success of the school and the community.

Mr Matjeke looks forward to the contribution he can make in his new role and also learning from the wealth of experience his colleagues bring.

Our RE Subject Leader

Our RE Curriculum Leader, Miss Coulson, joined the school when it opened in 2012.

She is an experienced teacher, previously working and leading in the EYFS until 2017 within St Michael's. Miss Coulson now leads and teaches RE in the school, teaching 300 pupils a week and supports the classes who do not have explicit lesson time with her.

She is an accredited Understanding Christianity Trainer and will be supporting schools in the near future.

Miss Coulson also worked hard to help the school to achieve the REQM Silver Mark in 2021 which was a reflection of the amazing RE work taught in our school.

She is a member of the local SACRE group and hopes to make an impact on the wider community.

Miss Coulson works closely with the local diocese and has supported schools with training, sharing resources and expertises to others through Network meetings.

She is an interactive and creative teacher, the children learn greatly through her lessons.

Miss Coulson welcomes colleagues to observe her teaching and will support other teachers with developing a fantastic RE provision in their schools.

Our School Prayers

St Michael's Church School Prayers

We invite our children to pray at least three times throughout the school day.

Our prayers are said before food (breakfast and lunchtime), during Collective Worship and at home time.

The children are invited to join in with the words or to simply say 'Amen' at the end.

If they choose to not pray then we ask them to take time to reflect, pause and think about something specific such as living our core values, our vision or something they are grateful for in their life.

These prayers are on display in the classrooms and around school.

We also say 'Our School Prayer' and the 'Lord's Prayer' during Collective Worship.

	Breakfast / Lunchtime	Home time
Beehive	Dear Lord, Thank you for our delicious breakfast, To prepare our brains for a day of learning. Amen	Dear Lord, Thank you for our time at school, Help us to learn to rest, play and enjoy life too. Amen
Reception	Dear Lord Thank you for the food we eat and the friends we get to meet. Amen	Dear Lord Now the working day is done thanks for making learning fun Amen
Key Stage 1	Dear Lord, Thank you for the food we eat, Thank you for the world so sweet, Thank you for the birds that sing, Thank you Lord for everything. Amen	Dear Lord, Now the busy day is done, Father, bless us everyone, Keep us safely through the night, Till we see the morning light. Amen
Key Stage 2	Dear Lord, For what we are about to receive, May the Lord make us truly thankful. Amen	Dear Lord, Thank you for our lovely day, Help us as we go on our way, Thank you for all we have got, Help us to persevere and never stop. Amen

Our School Prayer

This was written by the children who first started the school in 2012. It is said regularly in school during Collective Worship and other times in the school day.

Dear Lord,

Hear our prayer,

Help us to enjoy our school and the wonderful world you have created,

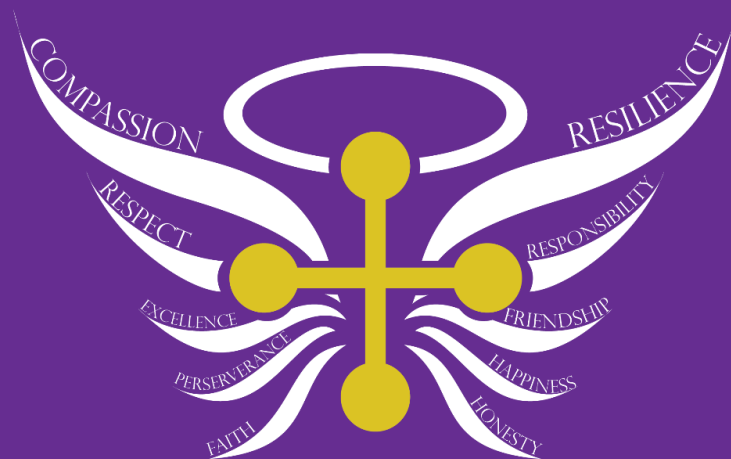
Teach us to respect ourselves and each other.

Show us how to care as you care for each one of us.

Give us the skills to use our talents wisely, so that are the best we can be.

In our hearts, we pray,

Amen



St. Michael's
Church School

Our Values

At St Michael's Church School, we have chosen 10 of our own Christian School Values which we feel as a school are a priority in supporting our children as Children of God.

In 2018, we asked the children, parents, Governors and members of staff which of the 14 Christian Values they felt were the most important in helping children to become well-rounded, spirited and 'good' human beings as God wanted in Genesis. We asked all contributors if there were any additional values they felt were important which perhaps were not on the list.

After a period of consultation and a vote by stakeholders, it was decided these values were most important and therefore these became our new whole school Values: Friendship, Compassion, Respect, Resilience, Perseverance, Excellence, Faith, Responsibility, Happiness and Honesty.

In addition to this, we added Biblical verses to our values, so it helps to deepen our children's understanding of what God wants from His children.

Excellence: Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you are working for the Lord.
Colossians 3:23 (This is also our school vision statement)

Friendship: Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends. John
15:13

Compassion: Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgive each other just as in Christ God
forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Respect: Show proper respect to everyone, love the family, honour the King. 1 Peter 2:17

Resilience: Stand firm and let nothing move you. 1 Corinthians 15:58

Perseverance: Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Hebrews 12:1

Faith: For the word of the Lord is right and true, he is faithful in all he does. Psalm 33:4

Responsibility: Each of you must take this responsibility for doing the creative best you can with
your own life. Galatians 6:5

Happiness: Be truly glad. There is wonderful joy ahead. 1 Peter 1:6

Honesty: He taught us to lead decent and honest lives in this world. Titus 2:12

These values are echoed in the classrooms through everyday teaching, embedded within our Collective Worship time and evident in the way the children work, play and exist with one another.

Our Vision

Our School motto has always been 'Be The Best You Can Be' since the school opened in 2012. The children who first started in our school became the best examples of this and as result future generations have continued to live through this motto.

In 2018, we added our Biblical Verse to ensure the roots of our teaching lay in the Bible and Jesus.

As a school, we chose Colossians 3:23 'Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord'. This verse embraces our everyday life as God's children, where we work hard for Him everyday and do it with all our heart, therefore being the best we can be.

We asked our children what our school vision meant and looked like in practice, this is what they said:

Early Years said: We come to school to learn and want to learn. We try our best, always!

Hedgehogs Y1 said: We sit nicely on the floor and concentrate so we can learn. We must work very hard, always trying our best. We should listen to our teachers and adults. We should pray to God. We must eat healthily so we have a good brain. We always concentrate on our own work and writing. We will try and earn lots of merits.

Foxes Y2 said: We try hard, follow the school rules, be kind and help others, listen to instructions, be respectful, complete our learning, never give up, try new things, show others how to behave.

Badgers Y2 said: We should always listen to the teacher. We have to believe in yourself. We must concentrate and try our hardest. Being the best means persevering and listening to one another.

Kingfishers Y3 said: We work hard, listen to each other and adults. We never give up on tricky tasks, and we help others and ourselves. Our school vision means being respectful to adults and children and being fully focused.

Owls Y6 said: We set ourselves realistic goals. We work hard and never give up.

Eagles Y6 said: We will listen to one another, we show respect and are helpful to others. We are kind and compassionate to one another. We are responsible for the school and ourselves. We should always persevere and show resilience which will mean we will reach our potential and beyond.

Our Vision Explained

‘Be The Best You Can Be’

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though working for the Lord.

Colossians 3:23

When the school opened in 2012, it was felt by the leaders, teachers, governors and key stakeholders that the children who came to St Michael's would always 'Be the best they could be'. That they would shine in the world and make a difference. That the children who work hard for themselves and prove that they are their own masters in their education ladder with support from amazing teachers and support staff.

In 2018, as a school we decided to add the Biblical verse from Colossians to support the children with understanding that this is a Church School and for those who wanted to follow in the footprints of Jesus this would be possible.

St Michael's Church

As a school, we have always had a fantastic relationship with Stanground Churches, the Reverends and Community. We have always been very supportive of each other since the day we opened in September 2012.

We have a wonderful relationship with Reverends Andrew and Carol who visit our school weekly to join us for Clergy Collective Worship. The children are so happy to see them in our school and feel confident to talk to them about a variety of different topics.

The Reverends also join us weekly in the classroom to support the children during their RE lessons. This has added great value to the lessons.

As a school, we also visit St Michael's Church through our RE curriculum and at special events during the year, including Remembrance, Christmas and Easter.

The Reverends support us during school visits and trips including taking Year 3 children to Peterborough Cathedral.

In 2021, the Year 6 were invited to host the Leavers Ceremony in St John's Church and this made the event even more special.

We also have a special relationship with Kingsgate Church who help us to run the Explore Club with the Year 6 children, exploring how the Chronicles of Narnia help Christians to understand God and Jesus. They also help to support the school with the Drama Performances, helping us with equipment and outfits for the actors/actresses. Kingsgate have also helped us to present fun Collective Worshipships however due to COVID-19 this has been difficult in 2020-21.

In addition to this, we also have a special relationship with Peterborough CROPS team. These wonderful people help us in making Collective Worship lively through role play, drama and songs. They help us teach the 'Walk through the Bible' programme to Years 5 and 6. Furthermore, Mrs Jessup will come into school to help lead Enrichment Lessons with different classes, examining big questions like 'Who Made God?'

