



Our Vision

At Bollington Cross, we aspire to be a kind, open-hearted community, rooted in relationship and the Christian faith. We look to one another and when our feet slip, we overcome challenges together, enabling flourishing for all.

IMAGINOR
Creative Collective Working for Primary Schools
ON CHRISTIAN FAITH

IMAGINOR
Creative Collective Working for Primary Schools



Why have one? What should it do?

It's an exciting way to articulate what we are all about; what we want for our *school community (not just pupils)* and how we aim to deliver it. It provides clarity, direction and a supportive framework that we can utilise and reflect-on continuously.



1. The vision is based in the Christian narrative - it should sound very different from the vision of a community primary school, and it needs to engage the whole community, not just the pupils.
2. School leadership and governors will need to be able to articulate the school vision and the theology behind it.
3. The Christian vision of your school should make a real difference. The church encourages schools to cultivate a vision that is unique to and effective for their communities and environments. It will form part of your identity and will go on to help the school make all important decisions – about staffing, budget, training, after school provision etc. and of course the curriculum.



Vision



Values



Goals



Practice



Reflection

By the time children move on...

Children should leave school with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity, but we should also encourage children to dig into their own cultural depth as each school is to be a hospitable community that seeks to embody an ethos of living well together. Here, the flourishing of the pupils goes along with the flourishing of the teachers and other staff. Whilst high academic standards are paramount, the church equally recognises the following:

- Values as well as facts
- Ethics as well as education
- Wisdom as well as knowledge and skills

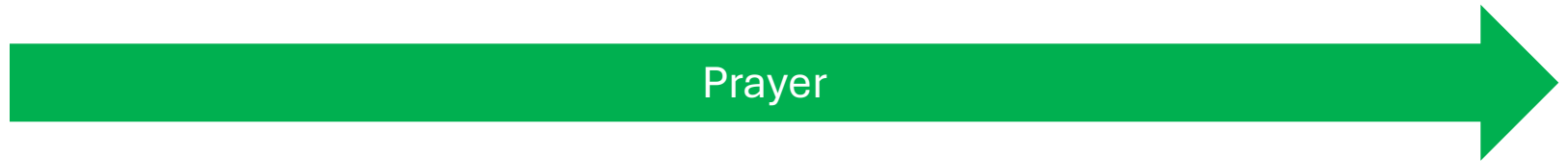


Every few years, the Church of England and Methodist School department for education – SIAMS visit schools, inquiring ‘How effective is the school’s distinctive Christian vision, established and promoted by leadership at all levels, in enabling pupils and adults to flourish?’

The SIAMS Evaluation Schedule has Seven Strands. These are complementary to each other and help to bring out clearly all the aspects of a Church School that the inspection covers.



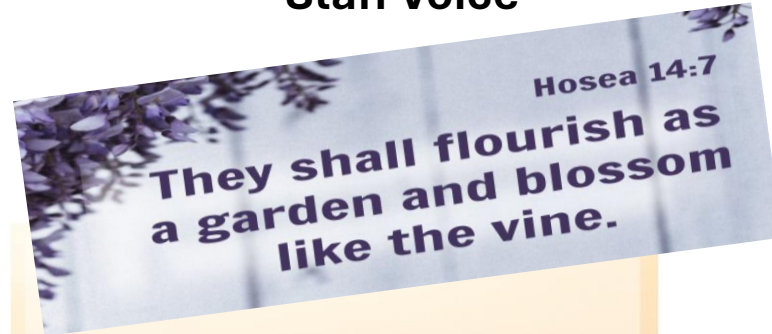
The Journey



2023- 2024
Staff Voice

What we found

2022 Parent
Survey



Psalm 121

I lift-up my eyes to the hills.
From where does my help come?
My help comes from the Lord,
the maker of Heaven and Earth.
He will not allow your foot to slip;
your protector will not slumber.



Staff participated in a workshop in church where they answered the following questions and selected Bible verses that they felt best underpinned what we aspire to do and be like at Bollington Cross

*Who are we?
Why are we here?
How then do we live?*
(SIAMS Framework)

The word cloud shows a selection of the most frequently used vocabulary in response to the questions posed to staff.

2023 – 2024 Governor Voice

What we did with it

We met and analysed the feedback, finding commonalities. This informed the following summations.

"We are the garden where a village with a shared heartbeat cultivates its seed. It is within the fabric of our community that we have the strength to be vulnerable and when any of our diverse community 'look to the hills and ask, where does my help come from?' (Psalm 121: 1-2) The spirit of God shines through our people, rejoicing in our rich, interwoven history; nurturing deep, honest and supportive, life-long connections; and cultivating a future where we flourish and blossom (Hosea 14:7), leading all to live life in all its fulness (Mark 10:10 - CoE vision statement)

"As a flourishing garden (Hosea 14:7) set amidst rolling hills (Psalm 121: 1-2), Bollington Cross is and seeks to be a joyful, open and hopeful community school, rooted in relationship and rooted in the Christian faith. We care for one another, seek the best for each other and nurture deep, honest and lasting connections, with the past and with one another. Together we lift our eyes, hopefully, to the future."

In the Bollington Cross CoE School community we have the strength, confidence and joy to be open and vulnerable to each other. We value strong relationships and deep connections with each other, with the community and with God. We rejoice in the richness of our history and we look to our future with openness and hope. Everyone is valued, everyone is loved. We care for each other and help each other flourish. We are a school where openness, joy and hope are fundamental to our leadership ethos. We don't just say it, we live it. We seek to draw strength, joy, hope and love from God into our relationships so all may securely flourish intellectually, physically, mentally and spiritually. We are open to the beauty and impact of the world around us.

WAGOLL

Before we take the first steps in forming our vision, move around the tables and get a flavour of example visions.

A Christian family who encourage and equip each other to soar (Isaiah 40:31). We promote a love of learning with God as our guide in a safe, happy environment. We challenge and support each other to do our best.

We are a nurturing, inclusive, learning community, that celebrates all possibilities, through a journey of exploration, engagement, and enrichment, enabling all to take risks, build resilience and grow together in God's love. X holds the Bible story "Fishers of Men" at the heart of all it does. (Luke 5:1-11)

We care for all God's children, unconditionally. As a rural farming community, the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Matthew 18:12-35) and Jesus as the Good Shepherd (John 10:11) resonate with many of our children with all feeling valued and welcomed as individuals. All members of our school family are valued and respected. Each child is individually known, enabling us to ensure that every child achieves their very best.

Everyone who spends time learning and growing at X, becomes a successful individual with the courage, compassion, and creativity to make a difference in the future. We are respectful of God's world, working together to create a loving and caring community.

Through sharing the life-giving message of Jesus Christ, we are committed to developing: a love of learning, a place where all are valued, where we all live together as a Christian family. We help all recognise, develop, and appreciate their gifts so that they may let their light shine! Matthew 5:16

We presented our findings to the school governors, along with existing quality examples. The governors then drafted their own individual ideas.



Along the way...


Across 2023 – 2024, school was buzzing with worship and prayer experiences that also brought to light values and ideas that would inform our vision and how we celebrate worship across school.





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Imagining God's World & New Creation in School



ROOTS AND FRUITS
CREATIVE COLLECTIVE WORKING FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS
ON CHRISTIAN FAITH AND THEOLOGY

Picture
News

IMAGINOR
Imagining God's World & New Creation in School



Supporting statement:

Anchored in an engaging and challenging, broad and balanced curriculum, we enjoy a rich school experience in a safe and supportive environment where we have the strength, confidence, and joy to be open and vulnerable to each other. Our Christian values are the cornerstone of our ethos, and we don't just say it, we live it, nurturing deep, honest, and lasting connections whilst fostering academic, social and emotional, and spiritual growth. We rejoice in our rich interwoven history and cultivate a future where we may live life in all its fulness (John 10:10).

As a result, our community has:

- 1. Honest and fair role-models who build positive relationships and encourage a healthy lifestyle through enriching experiences, rooted in challenge and curiosity.**
- 2. Children with positive wellbeing who enjoy coming to school. With the support of our school values, children try their best in every situation so that they can develop key character strengths; a love for learning; and the drive to succeed independently and as part of a team.**
- 3. An inclusive school environment inspired by our values, promoting kindness and respect for others and ourselves. We celebrate diversity; encourage one another's unique individuality; and find joy and appreciation in each part in our school's rich tapestry.**



Vision



Values

Our Vision

At Bollington Cross, we aspire to be a kind, open-hearted community, rooted in relationship and the Christian faith. We look to one another and when our feet slip, we overcome challenges together, enabling flourishing for all.

Our vision is underpinned by values that help bring our vision to life. Our values are known to the children and referred to frequently across the day and throughout school life.





- They are simple, accessible and applicable for everyone from reception children to staff and parents.
- Children's understanding and utilisation will grow as they grow, becoming more advanced and nuanced in UKS2.
- They are foundational to Christian teaching, and they have been ever-present in our community, even in our school prayer.
- They encompass many of the values and character strengths that we aspire to nurture and are already present in our worship framework. Many of them overlap and may be relative to all three values.

Our three values are encompassed in **faithfulness**. As a school, if we define faithfulness as 'patiently waiting with trust', it works on both secular and spiritual levels. From a secular perspective, by having patience and trust in these values and our community, it leads to the betterment of ourselves and one another. The more spiritual nuance is that Christians might believe that by exercising these values, we act as windows of God's love, allowing the Holy Spirit to work through us.

Our Values and Worship

On Monday (collective worship) and Tuesdays (class worship), our worship theme finds its foundations in scripture and the liturgical calendar, supported by themes and resources from Roots and Fruits. We found that each of the topics explored fits into one or more of our school values:

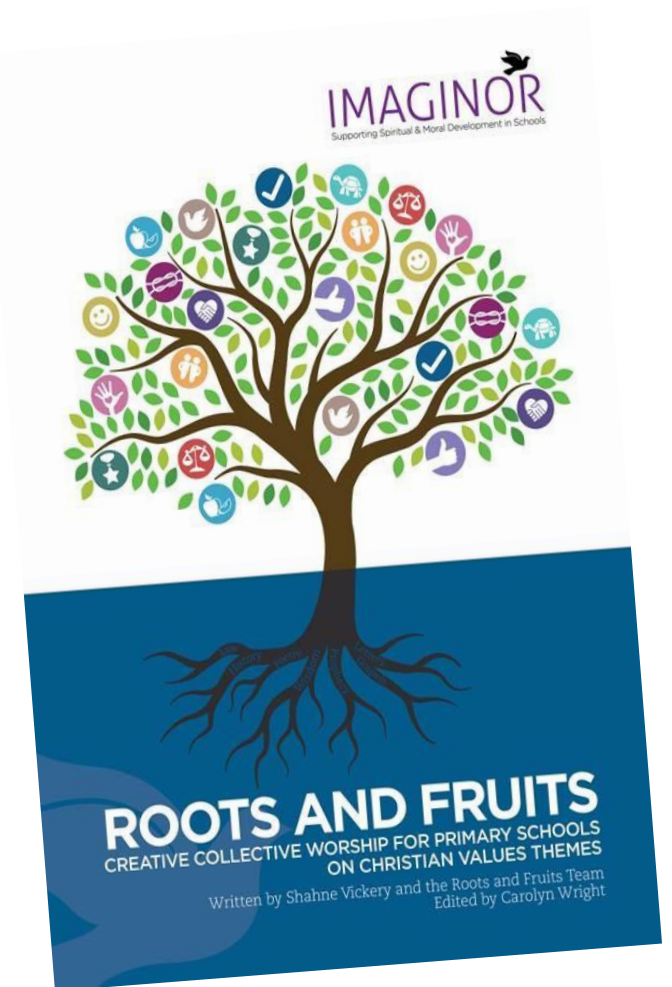
LOVE

HOPE

PEACE

FAITHFULNESS

Compassion
Justice
Friendship
Responsibility
Forgiveness
Respect
Humility
Generosity
Courage
Forgiveness
Wisdom
Perseverance
Trust
Creativity
Humility
Truthfulness
Thankfulness
Service



Our Values and Worship



On Wednesdays, our worship is linked to Picture News - a current affairs resource, relating to Christian Values.

We reflect on how the story links to our values and how it promotes to faith in actions and courageous advocacy.



How might the story fit in with our school values?

What's happening in the news this week?



Let's have a look at this week's poster!

30th September - 6th October 2024

Our Values and Worship

On Fridays, we enjoy Celebration Worship as a whole school, reflecting on the week's theme and championing the ways in which we have shone and aim to shine, inspired by the Bible and the life of Jesus.



love



hope



peace



faithfulness



Our Values and Worship

Our values also inspire our school prayer



This is our school
Let peace and faithfulness dwell here
Let hope and love abide here
Love of humankind
Love of one another
Love of life itself
And love of God
Let us always remember
Amen

What's Next?

As we move forward, we will set goals to help bring our vision to life, ensuring that it informs all that we do at Bollington Cross. This will then lead to reflection which in-turn will inform our future, including possible tweaks to our school vision, our values and our practise so to provide the best experience for community, allowing every to live life in all its fullness (John 10:10)

