



# **St. Patrick's Primary School**

## **Vision and Values statement 2014**

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### **Why is it important?**

Having a statement of St Patrick's Vision and Values is very important. This is much more than a series of words printed on paper, to be glanced at and filed away. It sets out what we really value, our high ambitions and aspirations for our children, and how we aim to behave.

It is a foundation stone on which we will build. When we think of our policies or our rules, or when we review our curriculum, or when we have an opportunity to improve our building, we will ask what our Vision and Values statement says to guide us.

This is the result of many sessions with children, staff and governors – everyone in the St Patrick's community. So it reflects what we all want.

It is not set in stone. We will keep it in front of us, and we will review and amend it as we grow.

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### **What does Vision and Values mean?**

Our Vision is a short picture of the future that we are seeking to create. We are thinking about 3 years away.

Our Values would be regarded as our personality if the school was a single human being. It includes things like our ways of doing things, our expectations of each other, our aspirations for our children, and the care and respect we show each other.

Of course our Vision and Values must be consistent with each other. Our Values will help us in achieving our Vision.

In this document we will set out our Vision and Values, and will then give some examples of what all this might mean in practice.

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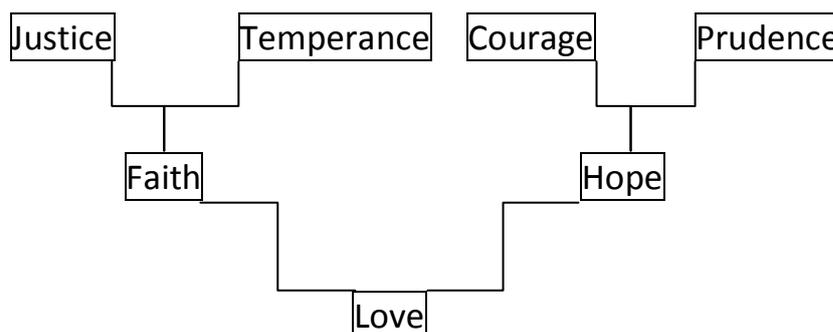
## **Our Vision**

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School will be a model of educational excellence, consistently within the top 5% of schools in England. The School will have achieved this through the delivery of a creative and rigorous curriculum which inspires and motivates all our children to realise their God-given potential. Children will leave St Patrick's happy with who they are, confident in their abilities, polite and articulate, and ambitious for their future growth.

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## Our Values

1. **We value every individual** as a unique creation and gift of God.
2. **We value the diversity of the St Patrick's community\***, and the richness of culture and experience that brings to us.
3. As a Catholic school, **we value the virtues\*** of Justice\*, Temperance\*, Courage, Prudence, Faith, Hope and Love. They underpin everything that we do. We see them as connected, with Love supporting Faith and Hope, Faith supporting Justice and Temperance, and Hope supporting Courage and Prudence.



- **Love** underpins everything and sometimes interrupts everything, and here we mean the commitment and friendship that we offer to the children. It informs Faith and Hope.
  - **Faith** is about giving to God what is due to him. We worship and glorify Him by our actions. We treat others fairly which is their due.
  - **Justice** is about fairness and respect for ourselves and others.
  - **Temperance** is self control in our emotions, our actions and our appetites.
  - **Hope** is about the future. It is doing your best, trying and trying again. It is about having aspirations and developing confidence.
  - **Courage** is the willingness to try new things, and meet new people.
  - **Prudence** is about looking after ourselves, others and the property with which we are entrusted, as well as being sensible with risks.
4. **We value the world and the country in which we live\***, and we do all that we can to know it better and to care for it in every small way that we can.
  5. **We value learning\*** as it enables us to reach our human potential, to contribute fully to our society and to live happy, fulfilling lives.
  6. **We value that our work is valued.** It matters to us that parents care enough about us to bring children to school on time and ready to learn, that Governors give us their time and skills, and that all those who support us in the Diocese, the local authority and Ofsted care about us.

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\*We undertake to make explicit the profound connections between these values and the fundamental "British Values" of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual

respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs (or those of no faith) referred to in the Ofsted Handbook of September 2014.

### What this means in practice

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| For the school overall | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A place full of joy, laughter and purposeful stimulating work.</li> <li>• Everyone has a sense of belonging and pride in the school.</li> <li>• Children working together, supporting one another.</li> <li>• Excellent teachers who know their children and work to make each one as good as he or she can be.</li> <li>• Excellent behaviour with every person being polite and courteous to each other.</li> <li>• We learn to manage our emotions.</li> <li>• Children are proud of their achievements but not boastful or looking down on others.</li> <li>• Children can articulate their needs, fears, ambitions and wishes.</li> <li>• Staff model good behaviour and use the language of the virtues.</li> <li>• We reward good choices and celebrate good behaviour.</li> <li>• Everyone in the school community feels welcome to participate when possible in trips, school masses, celebrations and volunteering opportunities.</li> </ul> |
| In the classroom       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pleasant, comfortable, stimulating environments.</li> <li>• Excellent teaching from professional committed staff, dedicated to bringing out the best in each child.</li> <li>• Children listen to their teachers and to each other.</li> <li>• Children are willing to give things a go, and to learn from their mistakes. We value mistakes – that’s how we learn!</li> <li>• We use art to allow children to experience things in common.</li> </ul>   |
| In the playground      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lots of fun.</li> <li>• Skills being developed.</li> <li>• Friendships being expanded.</li> <li>• A range of safe stimulating equipment.</li> <li>• Connected to classrooms at EYFS.</li> <li>• Children having a go at new activities, but not recklessly.</li> </ul>   |
| In the dining hall     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We model and remind children of correct behaviours: patience and good manners.</li> <li>• We take advantage of informal settings such as breakfast club and walking club to build relationships with children from a wide circle.</li> <li>• Children are given monitoring responsibilities.</li> </ul>  |
| On school trips        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We plan trips which maximise the benefits of being in the best city on earth.</li> <li>• Safety is our first priority.</li> <li>• Children act as ambassadors of the school.</li> </ul>  |

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|----------------------|---|
| In the school office | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parents, children and visitors are met with a smile.</li> <li>• Issues are dealt with as quickly as possible or are immediately signposted onwards.</li> </ul>   |
| For our Children     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In their time at St Patrick's, they learn to learn.</li> <li>• They develop a love of learning and of books, and a confidence in their ability to read widely and to learn.</li> <li>• They appreciate what they have, and remember those who are less fortunate.</li> <li>• They have respect for everyone, regardless of differences in faith, ability or colour.</li> <li>• They want to help other, rather than being judgemental.</li> <li>• That children contribute to the 'pupil voice' in the school.</li> </ul>      |
| For our Staff        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are encouraged and given opportunities to develop their skills and professionalism.</li> <li>• Staff listen to their children and parents, so that they really get to know their strengths and needs.</li> <li>• Staff work to differentiate what they do, to bring out the best in every child.</li> </ul>  |
| For our Parents      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They are very clear on how their child is succeeding and how they can give support.</li> <li>• They get their child to school on time every day, refreshed, in uniform and ready to learn.</li> <li>• They are comfortable that they can approach a teacher or the Headteacher at any time to discuss any issue.</li> <li>• They get regular communications on what is going on in the school.</li> <li>• They have opportunities to visit the school to learn more about how they can help their child's learning.</li> </ul> |
| For our Governors    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors know the school, its strengths and where it can grow.</li> <li>• Governors care for and develop our school premises, our IT and other resources wisely, to give us the most stimulating and comfortable spaces and facilities possible.</li> <li>• Governors design and approve all of the schools policies in accordance with our values.</li> <li>• Governors have the skills and the knowledge to challenge the school leadership to reach new heights.</li> </ul>  |
| For the PTA          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Everyone feels part of our school, and is happy and willing to offer to play their part.</li> <li>• The work of the PTA is valued and celebrated for all that it does in raising funds and in providing opportunities for people to come together.</li> </ul>  |

