

Curry Rivel VC Church of England Primary School: Vision and Values



'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' – From Matthew's Gospel chapter 7 vs. 17

At Curry Rivel Church of England Primary School we nurture our children to flourish and grow. We have chosen a tree to symbolise our vision and values. The tree represents our school, the fruit our children living out our core values, all rooted in Jesus' teachings, our church and Diocese, and the local and wider community.

Building on these core '5-a-day' Christian values of **forgiveness, kindness, respect, thankfulness and perseverance** we care for each other and our world. We develop resilience, confidence, creativity and independence through our innovative and diverse curriculum, inspiring and motivating everyone to thrive.

Our core Christian values underpin our school, providing the best possible environment for these fruit to grow and ripen within our children and whole community.

BIBLICAL UNDERPINNING OF OUR VISION STATEMENT

ASPECT	SIMPLE EXPLANATION	DEEPER UNDERSTANDING
<p style="text-align: center;">Our chosen Bible verse</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">'Healthy trees bearing (growing?) good fruit' Matthew chapter 7 v 17</p> <p>This Bible verse helps us picture the children and the whole school community. We see ourselves as trees growing and developing together...</p>	<p>'Healthy trees bearing good fruit' – A phrase taken from Matthew's Gospel chapter 7 verses 17 and 18. Here Jesus teaches that: <i>"...every good tree bears good fruit, but the bad tree bears bad fruit. A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, nor can a bad tree bear good fruit"</i></p> <p>At its simplest, we want the children to be good trees bearing good fruit. This is about deep, life-long, sustained, thriving life. (It's worth knowing that in its original context Jesus was warning about bad (religious) teachers, and is encouraging his followers to assess them by their fruitfulness, or otherwise.)</p> <p>The theme of 'fruit bearing/growing' is a major theme in Christianity. It appears regularly in the Bible. Here are some key examples:</p> <p>1) In John's Gospel chapter 15 verse 5 Jesus teaches that: <i>"I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who live in me and I in them bear much fruit..."</i> This is primarily about faith in Jesus and being joined to him through faith and the Holy Spirit, but if you think about our school tree picture (separate sheet) it's not a big step to think of it as our school as rooted to Jesus in a similar way. That's why I've included 'Jesus' teaching and the Bible' as one of the elements our school is rooted to.</p> <p>2) Psalm 1?</p> <p>3) Another Bible passage that talks about growing in fruity Christian character can be found in one of the Apostle Paul's letters – Galatians chapter 5 verses 22 and 23. Here Paul writes: <i>'The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control...'</i> All these characteristics are expected to be growing in Christians.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Core values</p>	<p>Valuing our Christian foundation, we care for each other and our world. We develop resilience, confidence, creativity and independence through our innovative and diverse curriculum;</p>	<p>Fruitfulness is also a big-picture Bible theme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A fruitful garden at the beginning of creation – Genesis 1 2) Much fruitfulness lost because of the Fall as sin enters people and the world – Genesis 3 3) Some fruitfulness within God's Old testament people. 4) The promise of restored fruitfulness through a rescuer to come.

	<p>inspiring and motivating everyone to thrive.</p> <p>Our core Christian values underpin all we do, and allow the fruit to grow and flourish. These core values are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Forgiveness● Kindness● Respect● Thankfulness● Perseverance	<p>5) The arrival of Jesus who through his death and resurrection makes restored fruitful relationship with God the Father possible.</p> <p>6) Pentecost means fruitfulness of Christian character as God the Holy Spirit moves into people's hearts.</p> <p>7) Fruitfulness growing as the church grows across the world.</p> <p>8) And now we wait for Jesus' return and the promise of fruitfulness fully restored in the new heavens and earth – Revelation 22 verses 1 and 2.</p>
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