



Ashton Keynes Church of England Primary School Christian vision, ethos and values; the Christian underpinning.

- Each child/person is created in the image of God (*Genesis 1*) and is uniquely made and loved by God (*John 3:16*). Each person is part of God's purposes and God has plans for him/her. Our school values each and every child, for who they are in God's eyes; a child of God. Each child is "fearfully and wonderfully made". (*Psalms 139*)
- Our school is a "koinonia", a community/communion held together in Christ. Our Bristol Diocese vision that we will be "communities of wholeness with Christ at the centre" is part of our vision. Relationships are hugely important in our school and is modelled on the Christian underpinning of community the trinity – God as Father Son and Holy Spirit, held together by love. Wholeness for our children is hugely important; it extends into our academic and shine curriculum, into our spiritual development and the safety, health and wellbeing of our children. It is part of giving them hope for their future.
- We are school which trusts God to show us the way, and which trusts God in his plan for our children. One of our iSingpop songs voices this "Show me the way".
- Our vision is Shine bright; reach for the stars. The children can articulate that the wise men were guided by a star as they journeyed to Bethlehem. The star is thus a Biblical image expressing Christian guidance. Our children are entrusted daily to our care and we believe God calls us to guide them as they journey through their 7 years at AKPS. We are part of God's plans for them.
- Children understand that Jesus said "I am the light of the world" and that he calls us all to be his light for others in the world. Children are challenged and encouraged to shine bright, not only in their academic abilities, but in all areas and to play their part in the school community and in the world. Biblical basis is Matthew 5:14 - 16 "You are like light for the whole world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one lights a lamp and puts it under a bowl; instead it is put on the lampstand, where it gives light for everyone in the house. In the same way your light must shine before others, so that they will see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven".
- We want to be a community which shines bright and reaches for the stars in the local community – so we take risks eg iSingpop, window wonderland.
- Overarching Christian values of "true love and forgiveness" shown in the life and death of Jesus, are lived out in this school. Children are loved and we all seek to restore broken relationships with forgiveness and reconciliation. Both are values deeply part of the Christian tradition, shown in the life and death of Jesus.
- A heart and a star is a picture of our school... Large heart is a picture of God's love in Jesus; the small heart is how each person is loved for who they are, the star for Shine Bright, Reach for the Stars and the guidance we offer.
- We value everyone and what each person offers we are together as The Body of Christ (*1 Corinthians 12*) where just as a body is made of many parts, each important. So it is in our school.
- Our school leadership is modelled on Jesus' servant leadership, serving the needs of others, our children. (*John 13:1-17 Jesus a rabbi, washed the feet of his disciples*). And like Jesus the Good Shepherd cares for his sheep and seeks out the lost (*John 10:1-18*) our leadership is concerned about everyone in our care.
- Jesus taught about "the Kingdom of God", where God's will and Jesus' teaching is lived out. Our school values that everyone can live within this kind of community.



Our four core values are fully embedded in Christian beliefs and Biblical examples.

- **Trust** - God, for the life of our school, trust Jesus to lead us and teach us. We trust each other and are learning many Biblical examples as to how the value is lived out. Trust in God examples are – Jesus trusted God through Good Friday; Esther, Abraham, Moses, Joshua, Daniel,
- **Friendship** –. We are an inclusive school living out inclusivity, especially of the outsider. The value is modelled by Jesus e.g. calling 12 people (not the best) as followers, sharing meals those who were “sinners” like Zacchaeus. The four friends who brought the paralysed man on the mat to Jesus. Jesus walked and walked along side two friends along the Road to Emmaus.
- **Perseverance**; shown by Jesus in walking to the cross, Abraham waiting for a son, Moses with God’s actions with the plagues in Egypt and leading his people, Daniel in worshipping rightly worshipping God, Nehemiah when rebuilding Jerusalem walls.
- **Creativity** - God who “spoke the word and the world was made, God’s power bringing Jesus to resurrection, the coming of Holy Spirit after Jesus returned to heaven.