

St Peter's



Church of England
Primary School

St Peter's Church of England School

Vision

Our Vision

We are a welcoming, inclusive family with a strong Christian ethos. We continually aim to be an excellent school where people care more than others think is wise, risk more than others think is safe, dream more than others think is practical and expect more than others think is possible.

A vision for excellence rooted in the Christian narrative

The life of St Peter is one that inspires our vision of excellence in all we do, and aspire to be, both as individuals and as a community.

At the end of his ministry Jesus asked Peter to feed and care for others. We aim to ***care more than others think is wise***. This is demonstrated in: our care for all children and particularly the most vulnerable; our care for each staff member; our care for other schools we support. We aim to support and empower each individual or group to be the best they can be for themselves.

During his ministry Jesus asked Peter again and again to step out in faith and follow his call. Becoming a disciple was a risk; stepping out of the boat was also a risk and leading the early church was full of risk and adventure. The risks Peter took were matched by a faith that knew that Jesus would hold him and be with him no matter what challenges he faced. As an excellent school we will at times ***risk more than others think is safe, dream more than others think is practical*** and ***expect more than others think is possible*** because we see and grasp opportunities for children and staff in order to ensure that we educate for "life in all its fullness" and build the common good for all. We will also celebrate that each individual is known, loved and held by God.

We are also inspired by the mistakes Peter made. He experienced failure on many occasions and had to start over again. In our school mistakes are "marvellous" because we can learn from them and improve.

The other inspiration for our vision is the famous passage on love in 1 Corinthians 13. Here there is a call to follow "***a more excellent way***" based on a deep commitment to faith, hope and love.

"Love is patient and kind. Love is not jealous or boastful or proud or rude. Love does not demand its own way. Love is not irritable, and it keeps no record of when it has been wronged. It is never glad about injustice but rejoices when the truth wins out. Love never gives up, never loses faith, is always hopeful, and endures through every circumstance".

St Peter's Church of England Primary school has served the community of Portishead for over 200 years and we are committed to our partnership with Portishead Church of England, and in particular, St Peter's Parish Church we seek to enrich the lives of all in our community. We continue to honour the following commitment:

Recognising its historic foundation, St Peter's 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.

St Peter's aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice, welcoming all regardless of their faith or belief. 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 Aims:

Excellence in all we do: To maintain and deepen our outstanding school status by ensuring excellent outcomes for all pupil groups.

We are committed to supporting every member of our community to be the best that they can be and to achieve their God-given potential. This means that we are ambitious and aspirational for all and build a culture of hope most particularly for those who are disadvantaged in any way. We nurture strong attitudes to learning and particularly foster resilience in seeking wisdom, knowledge, truth and understanding. We also give opportunities for excellence across a rich and full curriculum including music, drama, the arts and sport.

We know too that mistakes are an important part of learning and encourage everyone to reflect, learn and start again (1 Cor 13:5). We also know that our knowledge is partial and incomplete (1 Cor 13:11-12) and so we ensure a culture where celebration and humility go hand in hand.

Because we aim for **excellence in all we do:**

- We enjoy learning together. We support and challenge each other to be the best we can be.
- We are committed to developing every child's potential to be an '**expert**' by enabling children to be courageous, resilient and determined.
- We create and **model** learning opportunities that inspire, encourage and support our pupils to achieve **mastery**.
- Our children are empowered to develop and own their own learning with clear **purpose** in all they do.
- We encourage constructive **critique** to move learning forward

Excellence in who we are: As a church school to continually challenge ourselves to value, respect and support each other to become wise, generous and hopeful individuals, community members and world-wide citizens.

Character development is a priority for us and we expect much from each individual within the school. Our Christian values are key to each child's formation and a part of our expectation for every adults' modelling to others. Collective worship and PSHCE focus on Christian teaching and the development of values and on how to live well for ourselves and others. Our support for a large number of charities also embed these values (1 Cor 13;6).

We know that part of character development is the ability to live well together in community and so we explicitly teach how to relate well to others. The pursuit of excellence is a community activity because no one person has all the knowledge and gifts that are needed and so we are also a welcoming inclusive community and educate for dignity and respect. We teach and foster these attitudes in our class and year group communities and Family Groups.

Because we aim for **excellence in who we are:**

- We nurture relationships that are based on trust and respect, and value everyone's contribution.
- We actively seek to work in partnerships with parents and carers.
- Through our partnership with Portishead Church of England, and in particular St Peter's Parish Church we seek to enrich the lives of all in our community
- Our leadership is strong and shared, leads by example, enables and motivates, and constantly strives to ensure excellence in all we do.

Excellence in our service with others: As a Teaching School and English Hub to serve others schools, leaders and teachers by supporting them to enhance pupil outcomes, enrich lives and create hopeful schools and futures for all.

As part of our commitment to Educating for community and living well together we understand our responsibility to share our knowledge and resources with others for the common good.

All our children are involved in 'Legacy Learning' and this gives them an opportunity to make a difference to the lives of others. We also value pupil leadership and give numerous opportunities through School Council, House Captains, Librarians, Eco-Reps etc.

As a Teaching School we aim to support teachers and other schools to excel. We also contribute to the wider community and regularly deliver CPD opportunities for up to 1000 teachers per year. We also support schools via S2S support and provide ITT. We also work on a number of national projects with the DFE e.g. workload challenge projects. We aim to support and empower teachers so that they can have fulfilling and joyful careers in service.

Because we aim for **excellence in our service with others:**

- We actively encourage a culture of innovative practice, and confidently share this knowledge with others around us.
- We learn from other schools in a wide variety of networks.

For further details of the Christian underpinning of our vision, ethos and pedagogy see [Church of England Vision for Education](#)

Appendix 1 : Examples of where our vision is embedded into school ethos and practice

Excellence in all that we do:

- Our Pedagogy – Purpose, Mastery, Critique, Experts and Models and Clarity
- Our learning from experts
- Our Assessment practice
- Clarity of success criteria, rubrics and waggolls
- Displays and learning environment
- Excellence project at the start of each year
- Focus on any child who is not maintaining progress so that they get back on track – pre and post teaching □
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Excellence in who we are:

- Our values
- Worship and our relationship with church
- Pupil behaviour – policy and rules, class charts, heroes, characteristics of learning
- Family groups and buddies – cross phase responsibility for others
- Teachers are role models
- Expectations and behaviour on school trips/representing school □ Jigsaw PSHCE
- Taking children out of their comfort zone – in learning, residential

Excellence in our service to others

- Legacy learning projects
- Learning partners
- Buddy system
- Pupil leadership – school council, house captains librarians, classroom responsibility
- Eco work – and Litter picking
- Community events in residential homes and invites into school
- Community celebrations – Carnival and Portishead in Bloom
- Lesson study – support each other to be the best we can be
- Teaching School work – providing CPD, Training Teachers, School to School support
- Charity events – Children in Need, Comic Relief, Sports Relief, Christian Aid, Kanamai and others as relevant.