



Dear Parents and Carers,

As a Church school not only are we inspected by OFSTED but we also receive an inspection from The Church of England. As part of our preparation for this inspection, which is due this academic year, we have been revisiting our school's vision of education. We would like to share with you some of the work and ideas we have been exploring with the staff, governors and children.

The first thing we had to do was to summarise our 'Vision' in less than 50 words! This was quite tricky but really made us think about what is most important to us at St Johns. This is what we came up with:

***St. John's is a caring, Christian community striving to support its members to achieve their God given potential.***

***Exploring our unique gifts and raising aspirations, we prepare our children for the challenges of the modern world.***

***Following Jesus' example, we seek to grow good people who can make a difference.***

You will have probably seen posters around the school with "**Children are a gift from the Lord.**" (**Psalm 127 v.3**) on them, as this has been part of St John's vision for our children for a long time. We have taken the opportunity to revisit what that looks like for our school family and have broken it down.



#### **The Key word being GIFT**

We believe that any gift from God is most precious. This makes children the most precious gift. Consequently, developing and supporting every child in our care to become the best that they can be is fundamental to all that we do.

Each letter in the word GIFT has a different idea attached to it.

<b>G</b> "God in our lives."	<b>I</b> "Ignite your fire"	<b>F</b> "Family."	<b>T</b> "Truth"
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<b>G</b>	<b>“God in our lives.”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want our children to treat other people as they would like to be treated following Jesus’ example.</li> <li>• We want our school to be a safe place where children feel they can experiment, discuss and develop their understanding, as they undertake their own spiritual journey.</li> </ul>
<b>I</b>	<b>“Ignite your fire”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want to ignite a passion and curiosity for learning, providing an exciting curriculum to inspire all learners to be the best that they can be.</li> <li>• We want our children to dare to try new things and persevere when things get tough.</li> <li>• We want them to have the skills to make their way successfully in life.</li> </ul>
<b>F</b>	<b>“Family.”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We work as a whole school family –we value friendship and respect ourselves and one another.</li> <li>• We are all unique.</li> <li>• We can make a difference!</li> </ul>
<b>T</b>	<b>“Truth”</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We encourage honesty and truthfulness</li> <li>• We help children to build trusting relationships.</li> </ul>

We will be talking to the children about GIFT in assembly and in class over the next few weeks. You might want to chat to your child/children about what they have been doing.

If you would like to give us any feedback on our GIFT vision please send your comments into school marked for the attention of Mrs Waites.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs C Waites