

# Theologically rooted Christian Vision



**Newton Regis**  
C of E Primary School



**Austrey**  
Church of England  
Primary School

## Who are we?

Our small rural schools, just over a mile apart, are in the heart of the villages of Austrey and Newton Regis. They sit on the border between Staffordshire and Warwickshire, near the towns of Atherstone and Tamworth and in the northeast of the Diocese of Birmingham. We share our Head Teacher, Deputy Head Teacher and SENCO as well the Parish Priest, and Local Academy Board. Our subject champions also support across both schools. The two schools work as one and we therefore also share our vision, values, and curriculum. Each school is physically close to the village church and we treasure feeling that we are watched over as we live, learn and work. The original Austrey school was built in 1850 to serve the locality and it was relocated and rebuilt in 1969. The original Newton Regis School was replaced by the current building in 1995 and not only serves the village itself but also the nearby villages of Seckington, Shuttington and Alvecote. Although our schools are small, we have high aspiration for everyone to fully flourish.

The schools enjoy positive relationships with our partner churches which are part of the Parish of All Souls; a parish of 6 villages, served by one Rector. We have purposeful and supportive partnerships with the Diocesan Board of Education, and the Local Authority. Our schools joined the Birmingham Diocesan Multi-Academy Trust in September 2019. Being part of a wider family of schools adds capacity across our provision for school improvement and for our effectiveness as church schools.

It is in this context that we are called to serve, with love, to enable everyone to flourish as the fullest version of themselves.

The schools treasure their Christian Foundation and Anglican tradition which are central to our identity. We embrace pupils, staff, families, and visitors in the distinctively Christian ethos. The school's work is inspired by and rooted in biblical and theological ideas from the Christian tradition.

## What are we doing here?

### *Theologically and biblically rooted*

There are fundamental theological reasons, rooted in the Bible, for our Christian vision that are summarised here.

### *Creation and Love*

At the heart of our Christian vision is the belief that we were **created** by God as unique individuals, made to be like God and God is **love**, as most strikingly shown in the life, teaching, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

*So, God created human beings, making them to be like himself. Genesis 1:27*

*Let us love one another, for love comes from God. 1 John 4:8*

*Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you.' John 13:34*

Our vision sets out how, as a Christian community, we will be recognised by the way we love because God intended us to be loving, like him. We therefore aim to act and speak in ways which make love recognisable in every aspect of school life: our culture, consciousness, courage, conversations, and curriculum. This love will be publicly expressed as justice - speaking and acting up courageously for those without a voice or facing challenge in our community and beyond.

## *The Trinity*

In the theology of the Trinity - God in three persons, we see diversity and difference. Father, Son and Holy Spirit with distinct roles and identity, each being their authentic selves. Yet they are profoundly connected, in relationship with common purpose. Made in God's image, means we were made for living in community and that relationships are key to flourishing. The diversity of the Trinity reminds us that difference is to be promoted, celebrated, treasured. Our Christian vision is for the flourishing of all, in community, and to open eyes to difference and diversity through recognition, representation, celebration and inclusion.

*So, in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. Romans 12:5*

*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6*

Our vision reflects that of the Church of England Vision for Education; Deeply Christian, serving the Common Good; that of the Church of England Birmingham Diocesan Board of Education and that of the Trust. At the heart of each of these is Jesus' promise: 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full.' *John 10:10:*

We embrace this as a promise for everyone whatever their status, circumstances, or challenges. We strive for flourishing as unique, gifted individuals for every child and adult.







*Becoming the person God made me to be:  
living, learning, loving.*

*"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made"  
Psalm 139:14*

Created to be like God, we are all individual, different, and precious. As school families, we treat everyone with **dignity**, seeing each person as a vital stroke in the creation of the masterpiece which is our school **community**. We **love** and welcome everyone, supporting them in the ups and downs of life and giving them **hope** for a bright future in their **lives** and **learning**. We seek **justice** for all, embracing those who face challenges in their **lives** and **learning**. We act responsibly, treating everyone fairly but not necessarily the same. We work to ensure that everyone has what they need, and we act and speak up for those who don't. **Equity** underpins our commitment to enabling everyone to flourish as the person God made them to be. Therefore, living like Jesus, we think and act with generous and **forgiving** hearts in the strategic and day to day life of the school. **Trusting** in God and the teaching of the bible, we are building a culture of **trust** in which everyone can feel safe; confident that their spiritual, emotional, and academic needs will be met and that their **uniqueness** will contribute to the **unity and wholeness** of Austrey and Newton Regis Church of England Primary Schools.

Our vision is inspired by the teaching and example of Jesus who reached out in love and drew in everyone, whatever their status or struggles, beliefs, or views, and especially to those who were on the margins or adrift. We proclaim that we celebrate and treasure everyone, each made by God with love. We nurture everyone to find and express their true selves, praising God by living fully, learning well, and loving generously.

Our vision is lived out through the following Christian values:

<p><b>COMMUNITY</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We focus on relationships, participation in the community, building character and enabling everyone to live well and flourish together. "Share the work and share the wealth. And if one falls down - the other helps" Ecclesiastes 4:9</p>	<p><b>HOPE</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We enable healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, widening our horizons, raising aspirations and guiding everyone into ways of fulfilment. "God says, I know what I am doing. I have it all planned out; plans to take care of you; not abandon you; plans to give you the future you hope for." Jeremiah 29:11</p>	<p><b>DIGNITY</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We educate for dignity and respect; celebrating the preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique creation of God. "You are blessed when you are content with just who you are - no more - no less" Matthew 5:5</p>	<p><b>JUSTICE</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We treat everyone fairly but not necessarily the same. We work to ensure that everyone has what they need, and we try to speak up and change things for those who don't. "What does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God" Micah 6:8</p>	<p><b>FORGIVENESS</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We recognize that we all make mistakes; the life and teaching of Jesus shows how our community can be nourished and repaired as we forgive and ask for forgiveness, letting go of grudges, bitterness or anger. "For if you forgive other people for their offenses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you." Matthew 6:14</p>	<p><b>TRUST</b></p>  <p><u>With God's love:</u> We build a culture of openness, honesty and integrity so that everyone is safe, nurtured, noticed and loved. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so you may overflow with hope" Romans 15:13</p>
--	--	--	---	---	---