

How is the school's vision a clearly-articulated theologically rooted Christian vision?



<https://pioneerfederation.co.uk/stmarys/school-vision/>

Our vision: 'Being the best we can be, in a thriving Community, following the example of Jesus'.

Along with the vision, our core values of **Love**, **Strength** and **Faith** underpin everything we do at St Mary's. In John 10:10, Jesus tells us He came to give us life in all its fullness, and we believe that we help give children the best start in their education by giving them the stepping stones they need to enjoy all the opportunities life has to offer. As a Christian school, we believe that children live their best lives when they know they are **loved** and being loving; shown how to use their **strengths** and taught that having **faith** in themselves and others can lead to life-long learning and positive change. Our purpose at St Mary's is for all children to achieve their true potential, lead happy and fulfilled lives and contribute positively to their communities and wider world, experiencing 'life in its fullness'. All 3 values have specific biblical reference as their origins, which are intertwined into the ethos of St Mary's School.

The SMV School Vision and all 3 Values have specific biblical references as their origins which are intertwined into the rules & ethos of SMV School.

- **SMV Vision Statement:** *‘Being the best you can be in a thriving community, following the example of Jesus’.* In **Matthew 19:26 & John 10:10**, Jesus tells us He came to give us life in all its fullness and all things are possible with God, and we believe that we help give children the best start in their education by giving them the values, confidence & stepping stones they need to enjoy all the opportunities life has to offer.
- **Love:** *‘Love and respect yourself and all others, treating them as you would like to be treated’.* In **Luke 10: 25-37** - the Parable of the Good Samaritan, illustrates the meaning of loving one's neighbour. Our **SMV rules** link specifically with this biblical reference, explaining that we should **‘Treat others as you would like to be treated. Be kind and respectful to all members of the school community’**. **NF TO CHECK THIS**
- **Strength:** *‘Recognise people’s strengths and use your own to be resilient and the best you can be in all you do’.* **John 6:1-14** recounts the miracle of Jesus feeding the five thousand. It highlights Jesus' compassion and power, demonstrates God's abundance, and reveals the crowd's initial faith in Jesus as "the Prophet." The passage also emphasises the disciples' limited resources and the importance of giving what little they have to Jesus, who can multiply it for the benefit of others. Reminds us that God is with us, therefore we can be ‘strong and courageous’ as we pursue his calling in our life and help us face hard things with ‘faith and confidence’. Life can be full of challenges, sorrows, and tough decisions. But even amidst hardship, the Lord asks us to be ‘strong and courageous’. ‘Be strong & courageous. Do not be afraid, do not be discouraged, for Lord your God will be with you wherever you go’. Our **SMV rules** link specifically with this biblical reference, explaining that **‘We are resilient, brave and aims to be the best that we can be’**. **NF TO CHECK THIS**
- **Faith:** *‘Have faith in yourself and others, and be honest and truthful. Believe that you never know what you can achieve until you try’.* **Luke 5:1-11** describes Jesus performing a miraculous catch of fish, prompting Simon Peter, James, and John to abandon their fishing nets and follow him. The passage highlights Jesus's authority and power, the disciples' immediate response to his call, and the beginning of their journey as followers of Jesus. The passage underscores the importance of obedience/faith to God's call, even when it seems illogical or inconvenient. Our **SMV rules** link specifically with this biblical reference, explaining that **‘We continuously strive for high achievements and we are honest, positive thinkers and live our lives by God’s example’**. **NF TO CHECK THIS**