Our Core Values and Principles

Our Christian Vision is: "**Let your light shine**"

A **city** on a **hill cannot be hidden**. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before men, that they may see your **good** deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

Matthew 5:14

At Ravensden our Christian Vision is deeply rooted in all aspects of school and community life. Through our teaching, our environment and our engagement with the community. This vision enables all who travel and work with us on their life journeys to do so positively. It allows each individual's light to shine brightly both within and without.

Our personalised, carefully constructed curriculum provides real and meaningful learning experiences which enable every member of the community to flourish.

We are profoundly connected to the cross at All Saints Church Ravensden. It shines above us all at key moments of the year; bringing light, hope, joy and motivation to our children and the community.

It is our particular spiritual and emotional connection to this lit cross that provides the inspiration for our choice of verse for our vision, which sits at the heart of our school ethos;

Let your light shine. Our lights shine both within and without, and because of this our school is genuinely **the city on the hill which cannot be hidden.**

Our Core Values

Our school values are as follows:

- Respect
- Excellence
- Courage
- Equality
- Friendship
- Determination

We will take one value as a focus each term. Our behaviour policy is very much linked to our school values and children will only receive acknowledgement for success in a school value and not for example for sitting nicely! Every week in assembly one child will be chosen for the values award for showing excellence in one of the school values – this does not have to necessarily be the one that is the focus of the half term. We will take one as a focus each half term. They will be as follows: Determination, Excellence, Friendship, Respect, Equality and Excellence













In addition to the rewards outlined above there will be family points given out on a daily basis. These will be awarded to individuals or groups of children in classes / families for showing excellence in one of our school key 'soft' skills. These are as follows:

Communication

Team work

Independence

Creativity and problem solving

Reflection / evaluation

Resilience

These soft skills are equally important to us as a school as the National Curriculum. They need to be explained to the children as them being the life skills they need to both get a good job but also to become a good citizen!

Family points will be totalled each week in the class e.g. using marbles in a glass jar. There should be one jar /pot for each of the 4 families within the class. The year 6 heads of families will be in charge of going around and totalling the points on a Friday morning. In order to teach these 'soft skills' that are often hard to teach, there will be six characters who the children will be able to link to each key skill. They have been carefully chosen and link to the characteristics of these animals in real life. They are as follows:

 'Echo' the dolphin to represent communication

'Busby' the bee to represent team work 

'Coconut' the monkey to represent creativity and problem solving 

 'Sadie' the dog to represent improving yourself (growth mind set)

'Louie' the lion to represent independence 

 'Waddles' the penguin to represent resilience