

# The Journey of the Vision



We wanted to have our vision rooted in theology that was connected to our school. We have always unpicked the vision with the children and they can give examples of what achieving and flourishing mean.

The Ethos group and SLT narrowed it down to two possible parables to link to our vision.

The parable of the Mustard Seed	After a while, Jesus had lots of followers and the Kingdom of God had grown, just like that mustard seed that grew into a big tree! That tiny seed made a HUGE difference, and even though we can sometimes feel small, Jesus is telling us that we can also make a huge difference! <i>Link to vision: we are the mustard seeds and we can achieve and flourish into a big tree. We can be the ones to make a huge difference in the world, even though we may seem small.</i>
The Parable of the Talents	This parable reminds us that God gives each of us talents, and wants us to use them. Our gifts are to be tools, and we are entrusted with building others up through our blessings. This parable considers how we can be stewards, not just of money, but of our time, resources, and abilities <i>Link to vision: we all have our talents and special qualities. If we hide them away we will not be able to flourish and no one will get to see all that we could achieve and be in the world. We should make the most of our blessings and share them with others.</i>

We then spoke to a small group of Y5/6 pupils to ask which parable suited our school best.

They decided on the parable of the talents as they said talents can be things we get better at. The children said that this could be reading or swimming, but it can also be about getting better at being a kind person.

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From here we wanted to create a poster to support the children in being able to articulate the vision and the linked theology.

In a class worship, we asked the children to think of things that they can achieve and flourish in and gathered their ideas together.

We asked Liz Parnell to design a poster using a tree as a focus, with the fruits on the tree being the ideas the children had come up with.



In a later class worship, we asked the children (and adults) to give feedback on the tree and the fruits and how it helped them to understand the vision.

#### Feedback:

Child, Y3: I would like there to be a cross on the poster to remember Jesus.

Child Y4: I like the tree because we will grow too.

Child, Y5: I don't like the strong arm as this might tell younger children to fight and they won't know that it means to be determined.

Teacher of younger pupils: can we have different backgrounds for the areas that might be things we achieve in and the character traits?

Teacher: Can we have more in the writing at the bottom to give more information?

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Final vision poster.

This is shared in worship, put up in classes and will go on the school website.

