

# Our School Values

	What does it reflect theologically?	What does it look like in school?
<b>Hopefulness</b>	<p>We put our hope in the Lord; he is our protector and our help. We are glad because of him; we trust in his holy name.</p> <p>Psalm 33:20-21</p> <p>But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have.</p> <p>1 Peter 3:15</p>	<p>We teach our children that hope isn't just 'wishful thinking' or 'finger-crossed' optimism. It is a confident expectation of a positive future based on trust.</p> <p>In the classroom, every child is taught that they have inherent worth and a future. If a child has not grasped a concept, then the philosophy is that they haven't mastered it 'yet'. Progress is celebrated as well as achievement ensuring resilience and improvements are spotlighted.</p> <p>Supportive scaffolding for all children, including SEND children is in place because we as a school believe in every child's potential to overcome obstacles.</p> <p>For children to be hopeful, the adults in the building model it.</p>
<b>Kindness</b>	<p>Never let loyalty and kindness leave you! Tie them around your neck as a reminder. Write them deep within your heart. Then you will find favor with both God and people, and you will earn a good reputation.</p> <p>Proverbs 3:3-4</p>	<p>The children are taught that kindness is more than just being 'nice'. It is more than politeness and conflict avoidance. It is a choice to look out for the well-being of others.</p> <p>In school, this could take the form of looking out for other children sitting alone at breaktime and being kind to them, or inviting them to play a game. It could be welcoming a new child, and helping them to navigate life at their new school.</p> <p>Biblical kindness also involves protecting the reputation for example by not gossiping about others who aren't there to defend themselves.</p> <p>Kindness could be about going the extra mile, for example sharing resources.</p> <p>Kindness is also about forgiveness and keeping 'no record of wrong'.</p>

<p><b>Service</b></p>	<p>...I, your Lord and Teacher, have just washed your feet. You, then, should wash one another's feet. I have set an example for you, so that you will do just what I have done for you.</p> <p>John 13:14</p>	<p>In a Biblical sense, service is often modelled as the 'servant leader', turning the social pyramid upside down. This means that in school, children are taught that there is no hierarchy when it comes to helping and serving others and that as a community, we can all help and serve each other.</p> <p>This moves beyond just 'doing chores' and becomes a mindset of looking for where there is a need and filling it without being asked. A child may walk along the corridor, spot jumpers and coats on the floor and hang them on pegs. They may notice equipment on the field and put it back in the box, regardless of whether they were playing with it or not.</p> <p>In school, service looks like children and adults serving others even when they may not get recognition. It is helping others and being part of a community rather than serving for a reward.</p>
<p><b>Compassion</b></p>	<p>...The teacher of the Law answered, "The one who was kind to him." Jesus replied, "You go, then, and do the same."</p> <p>Luke 10:37</p>	<p>Thriplow children are taught that Biblical compassion goes beyond empathy. While empathy is feeling what another feels, compassion is a reactions to the suffering of others that compels action.</p> <p>The bible tells us to 'weep with those who weep' and 'rejoice with those who rejoice'. As a school community, we celebrate each other's achievements both in specific times of celebration such as Celebration Collective Worship and on an everyday basis in the classroom. The children are taught to be mindful of those who are grieving or sad in any way and to look after them.</p> <p>Teachers go out of their way to notice 'hidden' burdens. They may notice a child is not themselves and offer support rather than reprimand.</p> <p>As part of our Anti-Bullying education, children are taught to step into each other's situations and support those more vulnerable. This might take the form of calling out unkind behaviour or telling a trusted adult.</p> <p>On a broader scale, children are taught to look outwards and be aware of injustice around the world. They are taught to have compassion and act on this by raising money through sponsored events.</p>

<p><b>Confidence</b></p>	<p>For the Spirit that God has given us does not make us timid; instead, his Spirit fills us with power, love, and self-control.</p> <p>2 Timothy 1:7</p>	<p>While confidence is normally built on someone's own abilities, biblical confidence is rooted in trust and security in something or someone bigger than ourselves. This does not mean that children cannot build confidence based on their own achievements, but it does mean that all children can have confidence, regardless of any difficulties.</p> <p>If confidence is based on success, then failure can be devastating. If confidence is based on being inherently valued, then this encourages children to take risks. The culture in our classrooms is such that children are not afraid to 'have a go' and be vulnerable in front of their peers. For example, during Whole Class Reading, all children are invited to take part at a level that is achievable for them.</p> <p>Children are also encouraged to have the confidence to do what is right, regardless of whether it is the 'easy' or 'popular' option. This may mean they speak up against an unkind joke or the exclusion of a peer. Children also have the confidence to be their authentic selves without feeling they have to conform to a mold.</p>
<p><b>Achievement</b></p>	<p>I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.</p> <p>Philippians 4:13</p>	<p>Biblical achievement is rooted in the concept of stewardship, the idea that our gifts, talents, time and intelligence are gifts that we are responsible for developing.</p> <p>In living out this value, children will strive for success not just for praise from a teacher or parent, for example, but because they believe doing their best is a form of respect for their own potential.</p> <p>The children at Thriplow are taught that achievement is sometimes unseen. This is sometimes not academic - it could be keeping their corner of the classroom tidy, or neatening their handwriting. They are seeking to achieve for themselves, or for something or someone greater rather than to be noticed and honoured.</p> <p>Children at Thriplow learn that achievement isn't limited to academics or sports. The school recognises and makes room for 'achievements' in empathy, creative problem-solving, or mechanical skill.</p>