

'Working together to achieve our best.'

Derived from our 12 Vision Statements, the Firs has agreed a set of aims which further clarify our vision for the school:

1. A safe, happy and caring environment

- To create a safe, caring, inclusive and nurturing environment, where everyone feels happy, secure, valued and encouraged and in which all stakeholders feel they can ask for help.
- To encourage everyone in school to be friendly, approachable and respectful in the way they interact with each other.

2. A growth mindset

- To encourage in everyone, a 'growth mind-set', where mistakes are valued as opportunities to learn and the belief that **all** can improve is cherished.

3. A strong moral code - Ready Respect Safe

- To help children acquire a set of moral values and an awareness of the importance of being honest and being sensitive to those around them, so that they show care, courtesy and consideration for others, treating them as they would wish to be treated themselves.
- To challenge and tackle positively, any form of bullying.
- To ensure all pupils take a pride in their smart appearance and good behaviour.

4. Positive, tolerant and inclusive attitudes

- To make a strong commitment to the promotion of equality of opportunity, tackling any form of discrimination and promoting tolerance and respect.
- To encourage positive, tolerant attitudes, and respect for the needs, traditions, beliefs and cultures of others.

5. A strong spirit of teamwork

- To encourage in all stakeholders, a sense of teamwork: being an important and valued part of the school community and feeling satisfaction and pride in belonging to it.
- To communicate successfully with all stakeholders, so they have all the information they need at the right time.
- To forge close and productive relationships between home, school and the local community.
- To make a positive contribution to the Redborne Schools' Partnership and to successfully access the benefits it offers to The Firs.
- To encourage children to be actively involved in the life of the school and in the wider local, national and global communities to which they belong.

6. Promoting healthy bodies and minds

- To develop the knowledge and skills necessary to participate in a range of physical activities and enjoy them as part of a healthy lifestyle.
- To understand the need for regular exercise, to ensure long term health and fitness.
- To appreciate the need to eat a healthy balanced diet and be appropriately hydrated.
- To support children to become more aware of their own emotions and those of others and how to seek help if they feel unhappy, angry or worried.
- To promote good mental health, by ensuring appropriate support for children who need it.
- To ensure children are aware of how to keep themselves safe, including online and where to seek help if needed.

7. Appreciating the environment

- To foster the children's interest in, respect for, knowledge of and involvement with the environment, developing ideas to care for and improve it.
- To ensure children are aware of some of the threats facing our environment, including waste management, deforestation, extinction threats, energy use and global warming etc. and efforts being made to solve these problems.

8. Curiosity, awe and wonder about the world

- To arouse children's curiosity, awe and wonder about the world in which we live.

9. Encouraging independent and lifelong learners

- To help children to develop the thinking and problem solving skills, combined with the ability to evaluate progress, which enables them to become independent learners.
- To foster in all stakeholders, positive attitudes towards learning as a lifelong experience.

10. Aspiring for the best!

- To create an environment where everyone (children and adults) strive to do their best in all fields of endeavour.
- To maintain and build upon the high standards and reputation that the school has earned.
- To ensure the future financial security of the school, through sound fiscal management and by following statutory and agreed budgetary practices.
- To make the most effective use of staff, continually looking for new and more productive ways of working to ensure: a healthy work-life balance; staff who are happy and motivated; enhanced learning experiences for children.
- To develop the knowledge and skills of all staff through the appropriate and effective use of continuing professional development.
- To develop and maintain the school site, so it meets all the future needs of learners and provides all stakeholders with an effective, stimulating and attractive learning environment.

11. High standards of achievement

- To provide a broad, balanced and appropriately challenging curriculum that excites and stimulates young minds and actively engages them in their learning.
- To give any necessary support and encouragement to help children overcome any difficulties they experience, so that all can achieve the very best they are capable of.
- To enable children to make rapid progress, through high quality teaching, with effective and positive feedback, which ensures that the next learning steps are clearly understood.
- To recognize and reward achievement to encourage and inspire future effort.

12. Everyone embracing our values!

- To actively encourage all stakeholders to embrace the school's values and aims.