# OUR SCHOOL VISION

"Let Your Light Shine"

Matthew 5:16

These words of Jesus are at the heart of our school’s vision.  They inspire and motivate our whole school community.  Jesus reminded us in Matthew’s gospel that we are lights for the world.  As we seek to follow him, we can share his light with others and change the world!

*“You are the light of the world. A town built 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 others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”  Matthew 5:16*

We believe that every child and adult can shine and that this can be for the benefit of all. We recognise that we are all special in God’s eyes and have unique talents, which we nurture so that each of us has the opportunity to become the very best person that God intended us to be. We want to encourage our children to aspire to great things and for the light of their lives to shine and make a difference in their classrooms, throughout the school and when they return home and into their community.

We explore these ideas across the year linked with our school values of:

* Endurance (Psalm 118)
* Compassion (Matthew 9:36)
* Thankfulness (Luke 17:11-19)
* Forgiveness (Matthew 18:21)
* Justice (Proverbs 29:7)
* Hope (1 Corinthians 13:13)

Children will be encouraged to learn about Jesus (and our school Christian values) and how he shone from the inside out using the following Bible stories:

**Mark 1: 40-45** Jesus heals the leper – Jesus was willing to be with and help outcasts. (Compassion, Hope)

**Luke 19:1-10** Jesus meets Zacchaeus – no one is beyond the love of Jesus. (Forgiveness, Justice)

**John 6:1-15** Jesus feeds the 5000 – God provides for us all if we are willing to share. (Thankfulness, Compassion)

**Luke 15** The parables of the lost sheep, the lost son and the lost coin – we are each precious and valued. (Endurance, Hope)

Jesus said: *‘I am the light of the world’ (John 8:12)*. As he spoke to those around him during the Sermon on the Mount, he also used these words: ‘**You are the light of the world**’. In addition to letting their light shine on others, we want our children to recognise the value of their own light: to be proud of their personal achievements; to value and respect themselves; and to know how loved they are both by God and by others.

**Our school song**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WGarMi70QSs>

**Our School Prayer:**

Lord you are a beacon of light

Guide us in our giving, inspiring and flourishing

So that we become a brighter light together

Amen

# Let your Light Shine - on everyone, everywhere, everyday

# We aim to help every child:

# Let our Light Shine (Matthew 5:16)

# on everyone, everywhere, everyday

During the Sermon on the Mount, found in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus addresses a crowd and reveals eight blessings (known as The Beatitudes). He then goes on to talk to the crowd about salt and light. Jesus explains:

“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. 15No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. 16In the same way, **let your light shine** before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven."  
Matthew 5:14-16

As a Christian school family, we seek to follow the example of Jesus in all that we do. We believe that the Sermon on the Mount is a vital chapter in scripture, teaching us to let the light of Jesus shine through us.  We take great encouragement from the words "you are the light of the world"; this reveals to us that Jesus, who himself tells us "I am the light of the world" (John 8:12), is within all of us. We are all God's children and are called to "give glory" to our Father in heaven through our "good works". This reminds us of the importance of our actions. Our actions allow us to let our light shine. Our actions allow us to share the light of Jesus with those around us.

We want our school and church to be beacons that shine far and wide, lighting up our region with the light of Jesus through our work, rest and play.

By learning about Christian values, by listening to the teachings of Jesus, and by following the example of Jesus, we say to every member of our community: **let your light shine**!

**Being the best we can be, for ourselves and others**

At Canon Popham C of E Primary Academy, we believe that every child and adult can shine and that this can be for the benefit of all. We recognise that we are all special in God’s eyes and have unique talents, which we nurture so that each of us has the opportunity to become the very best person that God intended us to be. We want to see everyone being inspired and growing in wisdom, knowledge and dignity. We want to see children flourishing and excelling in everything that they do through providing rich experiences which give everyone the opportunity to achieve more than they ever thought possible.  We do not want the brilliant things that we do and learn to be hidden. We want to encourage our children to aspire to great things and for the light of their lives to shine and make a difference in their classrooms, throughout the school and when they return home and into their community. As we all demonstrate our Christian values hope, thankfulness, endurance, justice, compassion and forgiveness, in a supportive atmosphere of mutual respect and trust, our hope is that light will shine from Canon Popham in many ways, every day - for the benefit of all and for the glory of God.

Shining on **everyone** is about the ways in which we live out our school values in school and with others in our local and global communities.

Letting our light shine **everywhere** is about making sure we share and show our school values wherever we are, whether this is in school or outside in our local communities.

We also think it is important that children let their light shine **everyday** in lots of different ways, sharing good with the world.

**Valuing ourselves**

We believe that developing a sense of self-worth is of paramount importance. When he was on earth, Jesus once said: ‘I am the light of the world’ (John 8:12). However, as he spoke to those around him during the Sermon on the Mount, he also used these words: ‘You are the light of the world’. In addition to letting their light shine on others, we want our children to recognise the value of their own light: to be proud of their personal achievements; to value and respect themselves; and to know how loved they are both by God and by others. We aim to develop a Growth Mindset so that the members of our school are able to face the future with hope and aspiration and embrace all that life has to offer.

The words of the Sermon on the Mount remind us that a light should not be put under a bowl – it should give light to everyone, including oneself. In possession of God’s light and His love, it is possible for us all to show something of his light in our families, in our school, in our community and throughout the world.

**Our Vision:**

**Who We Are…**

Canon Popham is a single form entry C of E Primary Academy serving the parish and community of Edenthorpe. Our school is family and community orientated. We have good relationships with our families and our local church. Since 2018 we have been part of the Diocese of Sheffield Academy Trust (DSAT) which provides us with a strong, collaborative supportive network based on Christian Values.

**Matthew 5:16**

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, **Let Your Light Shine**before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

The vision for Canon Popham is encapsulated in our school motto:

**“Let your Light Shine”**

We are always working to build a community in which everyone is empowered to know the best of themselves and to have the confidence to use their talents for the good of themselves and their communities. We help all members of our community to become resilient to the challenges that they may face both now and in the future.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqgGctNEIFE>