

### **Rationale Behind our Theologically Rooted Christian Vision**

When considering, reflecting and deciding on our theologically rooted Christian vision, that guides the daily life and work of the school, we asked ourselves a range of different questions and agreed the following:

Great Finborough Church Primary School is ultimately here to **serve** the children and families of our local community- to provide a high quality education, rooted in Christian values and guided by the teachings of Jesus, that enables both the children and adults, of any religion or none, to flourish as individuals and to use the values, skills, knowledge and experiences they develop to benefit and care for the communities to which they belong.

A constant reminder, and symbol, of our school's vision is the mature oak tree that has stood for many years in our playground- it is strong with deep roots anchored well into the fertile soil- it has flourished due to seed falling on the good soil and in the right conditions – every year it bears fruits. It has watched over generations of children, parents, staff and members of the community. It provides shelter, inspiration and is a constant in an ever changing world.

We recognise that, for our seeds to truly flourish, like the oak tree in our playground, we need to provide the fertile soil and the right conditions for our seeds to establish strong roots, grow and bear fruit. We therefore aim to provide a broad and balanced curriculum where every subject is recognised as being important in supporting all the different types of individual seeds to reach their full potential.

As well as the fertile soil, we feel strongly that our seeds need other conditions to flourish. In order to achieve this, we need to take learning beyond the classroom. The curriculum therefore needs to be enriched with opportunities and experiences to broaden knowledge, skills and understanding. We recognise that, although many of our pupils are fortunate enough to have the means and opportunities to experience life and the world beyond the local rural community in which they live- many of our pupils do not. Therefore, we have a responsibility to provide additional opportunities and experiences across all subjects and must ensure that these are accessible to all.

Put quite simply, we agreed that the members of our community both children and adults, are the seeds we need to nurture. The broad and balanced curriculum we offer is the good and fertile soil. Our curriculum, enriched with opportunities and experiences, ensures the children and adults receive the additional nutrients and conditions to flourish. If we have been successful, the children and adults will flourish and will go on to enable many others to flourish too.

The teachings of Jesus that most deeply inspire and guide our daily life and work as a school family are reflected in the Parable of the Sower (Matthew 13:8). This parable encapsulates the very reason of our existence as a Church school and shapes our vision and belief in how children and adults flourish. It serves as a foundation that truly underpins and directs every aspect of our daily work and life together.