

At West Moors Middle School, we are proud to be a **caring school where respect is valued**.

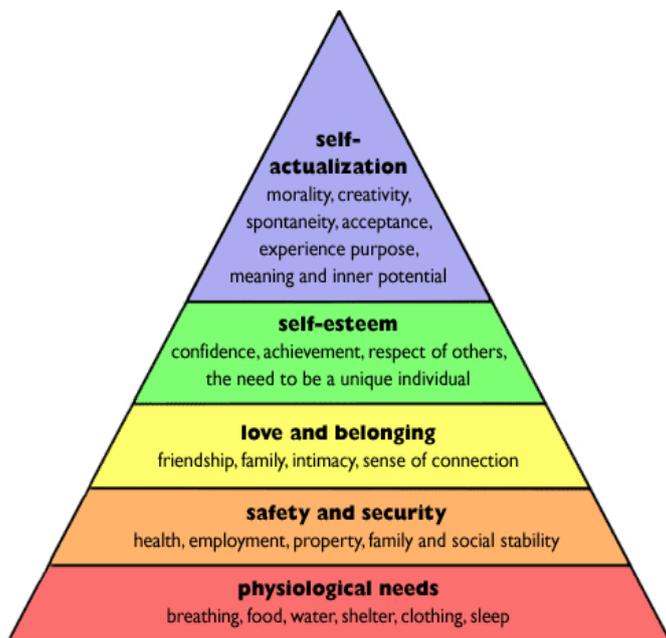
Our vision statement is:

“Thriving to achieve our best – Together.”

We considered all the different values that we cherish and work to promote every day in our school. The staff and children’s identified values that they appreciate include **resilience, respect, reflectiveness, inclusiveness, imaginative, collaboration, courage, independence, determination, kindness, preparedness and positivity**. Each one will have a monthly focus in assemblies and tutor time whilst simultaneously being linked to PSHCE, SMSC and British Values.

This document sets out to clarify how West Moors Middle defines itself as a caring school and how we express our respect and care for ourselves, our community and our world in the way we conduct ourselves, relate to each other and live our lives within and beyond our school community every day.

Being respectful and caring is fundamental to the development and growth of every single person whatever your age.



- Maslow suggests that our fundamental needs are breathing, shelter clothing and sleep
- After this comes security; feeling safe.
- The next need is to feel loved and to experience a sense of belonging.

Without this need being met our self-esteem cannot grow and we cannot recognise ourselves as lovable or unique. We cannot move on to self-actualization, the top of the pyramid, the “fulfilling our potential” we hear so much about in schools.

The bridge between our basic survival needs and growing and flourishing as a person in our own right developing our skills, talents and ideas is dependent upon our sense of feeling loved, cared for and belonging.

When we talk of being a “caring and respectful school” this should not suggest a place without challenge. Rather, if we fundamentally believe that every person is worthy of respect and care and should respect and care for others, then we should expect the very best of them and of ourselves because we, and they, are worthy of the effort required to excel through challenge and support.

This means that by acknowledging the uniqueness and intrinsic worth of each person, we, as a community, will strive to make every one of us the best we can be simply because we are worthy of the effort.

We believe that we can express how we develop each other within our **caring school where respect is valued** with a concentric hearts model:



How do we demonstrate being a caring school where respect is valued in a practical sense?

The following table gives examples of how we live out our vision and value as a Caring School where respect is valued every day in our effort, attitude and interactions with each other and those around us and in the wider world.

Respect and care for myself so I can respect and care for others	Respect and care for my community and family
High expectations with personalised learning	Jigsaw learning
High quality PSHCE and relationships education	Academic Resilience Project
V.I.P Celebration assemblies	Health and education partnership
Positive relationships built on trust and consistency of approach	Introduction of 'Wow' moments!
ELSA self-esteem and pastoral support	Local fundraising e.g. MacMillan cancer Support, Alzheimer's Society
Learning Charter	Events involving local community (carols round the Petwyn, Remembrance Sunday, carol service at residential home)
Positive behaviour policy focus on the good with Marvellous Me reward points	Links to churches, charities (Food Bank)
Dignity in discipline and sanctions tailored to meet children's needs e.g. social stories, comic strips	Leadership roles
No shouting	Year 4 Maths Day facilitated by Prefects
Growth Mind-set language and support	Inter school collaboration and competitions
Good communication with parents/ carers	Regular parents' evenings
Time for reflection and improvement in class/ tutor time	Parent workshops to support learning and parenting (e-safety for parents), SATS information evening
Development of a broad curriculum offering chance of success for all	Uniform vouchers
Active listening and "being heard"	School concerts (December) and Performances (Summer show)
Well-being of all valued and promoted adult and child.	Links with Forces families
Mindfulness	Questionnaires and open forums for parents half termly
Head teacher's tea party	Knowing our families and building relationships.
Open door policy	Career talks and visits
High expectations (attendance, uniform, behaviour and effort in learning and teaching)	Community links with the Police
Leadership day Year 7/8 and sports leadership opportunities	School visits by motivational speakers e.g. Jeff Mostyn and vicar from the local church
Christian 'stewardship' in Beliefs and Values	Senior lunches weekly
Christian 'stewardship' in Beliefs and Values	PTFA events e.g. Summer Fayre, Christmas Fayre etc.
Respect and care for my world and the environment	Respect and care for Technology
Rights Respecting School Award work towards Bronze award	Library access
Eco-warriors and schools work towards Green Flag	Accelerated Reader
Competitions and visitors to raise awareness	Rapid Reader interventions/ Number interventions
Development of global links to South Africa	Computer-based technology – Third Space Learning, Times Table Rockstars
Visits to Parliament	Positive rewards with Marvellous Me points
Curriculum with local and global perspective	Safer Internet Training
First news and poll of the week	
Talking topics	Developmental opportunities
Development of Forest school experiences	Visits from different faith leaders or representatives from diverse groups
School garden, growing own produce	Visits to different places of worship
Shoe box appeal	Animal link – school pet
Discussing concerns around the global news e.g. Newsround.	Animal link – school pet
International Day – linked to tutor groups' countries from around the world	GO 4 Schools – behaviour management system to further improve communications with parents/carers

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“Thriving to achieve our best- Together.”

When staff discussed our vision statement, we wanted something that described us as a school, what we aspire to be and to reflect our enviable learning environment with so much opportunity for outdoor and experiential learning.



We considered the type of learners we wanted to send on to upper school. If we are to get this approach right we want to ask pupils, parents, governors and staff the characteristics and values we would like our children to display by the time they leave us. These words will then be fed into a word cloud creator which will make the most frequently chosen words appear bigger. This word cloud will describe the type of pupils we wish to develop at West Moors Middle School. It will then be displayed in school as a reminder to staff and pupils of what we are aiming for as we work together day to day.



The school's symbol, the Sand Lizard, was once common on the local heaths in our area. Much of its habitat has been destroyed by development and it was adopted as the school's symbol to demonstrate a concern for protecting the local environment. In nature, the lizard is a survivor who has learnt how to thrive. They have unique adaptations, such as their ability to let go of and regrow various body parts and this makes them a symbol of internal power, and the ability to make themselves better physically or emotionally. The lizard seeks to show us that survival may sometimes entail sacrifices, but that we have the power to choose our own path and control our destinies.

To develop pupils with these characteristics, attitudes and values, we must move them beyond simply "being" each day at school and bring them, through care, challenge and support, to "active participation" recognising that education is a gift to each and every one of us and that we are all worthy of our best effort because our uniqueness and diversity is something to treasure, respect and celebrate. We cannot all be *the best* but we can all be **our best**. We must bridge the gap between simply existing and self-actualisation and "thriving" by being a caring school where respect for oneself and each other is valued.