**Russell Lower School - Our Vision**

**Challenge     Enjoy    Respect     Succeed**

At Russell, we educate the whole child. Our vision is:

* To **challenge** and inspire children to become intellectually curious
* To ensure children are happy, safe and **enjoying** their education.
* To be proud, confident and **respectful**
* To work together to ensure every child can **succeed** and exceed expectations

**Our vision enables us to be the first choice school for parents and children in the local area.**

To challenge and inspire children to become intellectually curious we will:

* Ensure teaching is inspirational through a creative, challenging and thematic curriculum that enables accelerated progress.
* Have a staff who are passionate and take responsibility for their environment, proactively seeking to improve in both their professional and personal development.
* Develop children to be well rounded individuals equipped for a changing world.

To ensure children are happy, safe and enjoying their education we will:

* Employ friendly and approachable staff who go the extra mile to educate children.
* Have an open door policy to ensure that parents, staff and children have the opportunity for ongoing dialogue.
* Provide a nurturing, caring and safe environment for children.
* Promote a life-long love of learning in our pupils.

To be proud, confident and respectful we will:

* Ensure children and staff take pride in our school and community.
* Encourage children to be independent and successful.
* Ensure everyone holds our vision and values dearly, and this is demonstrated throughout the school.
* Encourage our children to be good citizens with well developed values.
* Be a school at the heart of the community in Ampthill.

To work together to ensure every child can succeed and exceed expectations we will:

* Foster enthusiastic and engaged children who receive a personal education.
* Work towards pupils attaining higher than the local and national average.
* Encourage staff and children on a journey of learning.
* Promote the health and well-being of staff and pupils in an inclusive and accepting environment
* Commit to continuously developing to achieve excellent academic progress for all.
* Ensure the school is modern and fully resourced with appropriate equipment and technology.

**Russell Lower School: Review of Vision, March 2018**

**Evidence** cited to show progress made towards meeting vision:

**To challenge and inspire children to become intellectually curious**

* Pupil voice, observations, monitoring and feedback;
* Differentiation is standard across the school;
* Policies eg Excellence for All;
* pupil performance meetings;
* More outstanding teaching suggests more is inspirational;
* Two-year topic cycle
* Softer things – ‘buzz’ around the school
* **Accelerated progress** – eg reading – Switch on programme; change in maths from ‘Abacus’ to ‘White rose’ – pupils are gaining more mastery
* Some groups – still an issue – eg boys’ writing, PP issue.
* Work displayed around round the school
* Since build – everywhere kept clean, good environment for children
* Leadership – complete sea change in behaviour of staff and pupils
* Leaders providing direction on environment, which supports learning
* Cultural change – not fully there, but come a long way
* Conversations with Alameda suggest children are well equipped for next stage of education
* Values
* Behaviour logs
* Extra-curricular opportunities
* Year 4 – could they take more responsiblity for themselves

**To ensure children are happy, safe and enjoying their education**

* Recent recruitment has led to real positivity
* Selection process is thorough
* Range of clubs available for pupils
* Parent questionnaire
* Accident record – take pro-active approach

**To be proud, confident and respectful**

* Questionnaire
* Environment – classrooms and corridors kept well; still issue with playground equipment
* New uniform – majority wearing purple
* Roles around the school eg Yr 4 sports ambassadors
* Is there need to educate parents more re child independence; also do they know key words of the vision?
* Involvement in community eg Christmas Tree festival, carol concert, Russell Rocks, Brownies at school, football club, sports clubs in holidays, Rotary, alameda link.

**To work together to ensure every child can succeed and exceed expectations**

* Star challenge
* Teaching; differentiaton; attainment and progress data
* Times-tables, number bonds, spellings all individualised
* Accelerated reader
* Parent feedback