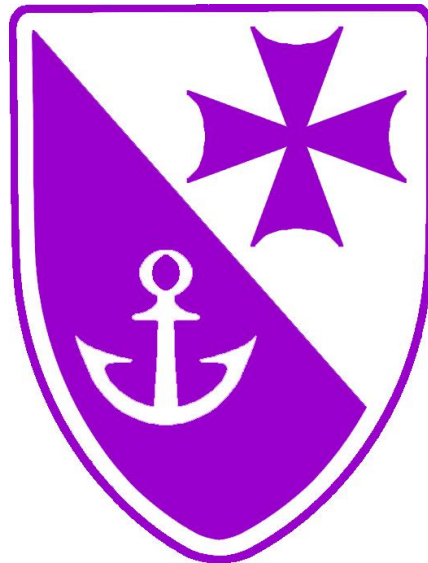


Spirituality Policy

St Clement's and St John's CE

Infant School



Introduction

Spirituality at St Clement's and St John's CE Infant school has a distinctively Christian mission which shapes school policies and church school development plans.

*To inspire learning for life.
I know the plans I have for you," says the Lord...
"plans to give you a future and a hope."
Jeremiah 29:11*

Each child's spiritual development is promoted as part of our whole school ethos, and rooted in our vision:

'To love learning
To love ourselves
And to love one another'

It is fostered throughout the curriculum, in Religious Education and in our daily life, through our 4C Values-

Confidence, Compassion, Creativity, Curiosity

Collective Worship, a spiritual activity of response to God, provides a daily context in which to explore the spiritual experience.

Legal Requirements

In line with **Ofsted (2019)**, the spirituality of our school is one which promotes the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils at the school, and evaluates the extent to which the school's education provision meets different pupils' needs, including pupils with SEND.

The provision for the spiritual development of pupils includes developing their

- ability to be reflective about their own beliefs (religious or otherwise) & perspective on life
- knowledge of, and respect for, different people's faiths, feelings and values
- sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them
- use of imagination and creativity in their learning and willingness to reflect on their experiences.

The Church of England (2016)

Vision for education- 'Deeply Christian, Serving the Common Good'.

As a church school, we aim to demonstrate excellence in:

- **Educating for wisdom, knowledge and skills:** enabling discipline, confidence and delight in seeking wisdom and knowledge, and developing talents in all areas of life.
- **Educating for hope and aspiration:** enabling healing, repair and renewal, coping wisely when things go wrong, opening horizons and guiding people into ways of fulfilling them.
- **Educating for community and living well together:** a core focus on relationships, participation in communities and the qualities of character that enable people to flourish together.
- **Educating for dignity and respect:** the basic principle of respect for the value and preciousness of each person, treating each person as a unique individual of inherent worth.

In line with the **Winchester Diocese** we aim to offer a high quality education within a Christian context according to their guidelines, as a community school with a Christian character serving the needs of the local area.

We aim to provide:

- Religious Education teaching in line with the locally agreed syllabus
- Acts of collective worship every day.
- education underpinned by Christian values
- a culture guided by the Christian way of life
- care of each individual as a unique part of God's creation
- close links with the community
- partnership with the local Anglican Church and congregation.

The diocese believes the distinctively Christian nature of their schools enables children to flourish in all respects, including achieving academic excellence and fulfilling their individual God-given potential.

Aims of Spirituality

We recognise that the spirituality of each person in our school community is based on relationship; with themselves (Confidence), with others (Compassion), with the world and beauty (Creativity), and with 'Beyond' (Curiosity).

We endeavour:

- To celebrate and develop the spirituality and **confidence** of each person in our community, as God's children, including those who are more vulnerable and who may have additional learning and personal needs.
- To encourage an awareness of making a difference with others, building **compassion** and care for others in our local community and in the wider world, alongside the diocese and churches.
- To nurture a sense of spiritual **creativity** with the world and beauty.
- To recognise that each individual in our school community is on different points of a journey of faith as a spiritual being.
- To encourage expression of **curiosity** about the beyond in a variety of ways, cultivating a sense of wonder, mystery and worship of God.

We will do this through:

- Day to day encouragement of a focus on our four living values.
- Day to day Acts of worship, whole school and class based.
- Allowing pupils to develop a range of personal values, which may include a religious belief.
- Timetabled opportunities for reflection to include spiritual thinking.
- Living our vision and associated values, developing aspiration in all pupils, giving them resilience to cope well when things are difficult and the perseverance to overcome barriers to their own learning and to make positive choices.
- Developing their self-esteem, self-knowledge and self-belief.
- Ensuring that all pupils have curriculum opportunities to look beyond themselves, ask 'BIG questions', think globally about life and develop an understanding of disadvantage, deprivation and the exploitation of the natural world.
- Engaging in social action through project learning- disadvantage, deprivation and the exploitation of the natural world.
- Courageous advocacy- Linking ethical and charitable activities to the school's vision and associated values.
- Finding opportunities for pupils to engage in social action and to understand how they can challenge injustice.
- Arts and Cultural opportunities, and use of the Secret Garden, encouraging them to consider the deeper meanings in familiar features of the natural world.
- Supporting pupils as they develop understanding, respect and celebrate difference and diversity of their own and other people's lives and beliefs, for example through stories, drama, music, art and Religious Education.

- Encouraging the development of relationships and the need to show empathy for others.
- Explicitly supporting good mental health through emotional support for children and adults and a sense of belonging that embraces and celebrates difference.
- Where appropriate, provide practical support where there may be a physical need such as hunger.
- Allowing them to express themselves in a variety of ways and give them time to reflect on their own experiences.
- Giving supported encouragement to understand, express, use & control feelings and emotions.

Some of the ways we will do this as a school:

- Educational visits, to ensure pupils explore a range of experiences, which may promote awe, wonder, confidence, curiosity and creativity.
- Achievement certificates, stickers and awards, some linked to core values to develop the pupils' self-esteem, including The 'Golden Anchor Award' which celebrates a child in each class who has demonstrated the living or Learning value focus during the week.
- Intervention Programmes, a wide variety of clubs, arts, cultural and musical opportunities which develop confidence and self-esteem.
- PSHE programme incorporating the SEAL programme, which develops self-esteem and understanding of ourselves and others.
- VIVA-GO! Values based Solution focused individual, group and class coaching
- Trick Box- a fun and effective personal development programme designed to help children:
 - ✓ Build confidence.
 - ✓ Manage emotions and anxiety.
 - ✓ Develop communication skills.
 - ✓ Make positive choices about actions.
 - ✓ Coach themselves through challenges
- Elected Student Council/ Spirituality leaders for pupils to advocate their views, concerns and actions.
- Displays of exemplary and effort which celebrate pupils' work.
- Assessment for learning procedures, which allow children time to reflect on their learning and that of their peers.
- A structured and creative Curriculum, which has an emphasis on our Living and Learning values.
- High quality Collective Worship, which encourages reflection and Christian values.
- Daily prayer at lunchtimes and at other appropriate times.

Spirituality in our school should be seen by:

- Relationship with self... the confidence shown by pupils and staff who work and learn within a safe and encouraging community.
- Relationship with others... The many cultures within our school family accepted and celebrated. Our Christian vision and associated values underpinning relationships at all levels within the school community, enabling pupils to disagree well and to practice forgiveness and reconciliation.
- Relationship with the world and beauty, and opportunities to explore this.
- Relationship with 'Beyond.' Whole school and class Acts of Worship. Distinct and interactive Worship, with praise, worship, prayer and moments of silence to reflect.
- Interactive reflection areas in each class.
- The BIG question- opportunities to explore questions beyond the instant answer.
- Services and festivals across the year together with Bethany CE Junior School.
- Creativity and imagination expressed through the Curriculum and home learning, displayed and celebrated.
- All areas of the school and outdoor areas being used to reflect and promote spirituality.
- Effective use of The Secret Garden to interact with the environment, grow healthy mental health and have quiet time to reflect.
- Pupils contributing to the life of the school and community through leadership and role Modelling through termly leadership roles, such as Head and Deputy Head boy and girl, School Council, IT leaders.

Monitoring and evaluating Spirituality

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the spirituality policy will be through:

- An annual audit through parent, staff and pupil questionnaires.
- Learning walks, pupil voice about Spiritual learning and worship.
- Monitoring of RE through work audits and lesson observations.
- Regular meetings of Infant and Junior schools' Spirituality Senior Leadership team to feedback, review and develop spirituality across both schools.

Communication

- Parents are regularly invited in to come to weekly school acts of worship, to celebrations at the end of Curriculum projects, and to Christmas, Easter, Pentecost and Harvest, to End of Year and transition Communion services for Year 2.
- Each term has a focus on one of the Living Values (4Cs) and will link to one of the Learning Values (4Rs):
- Confidence and Resilience
- Compassion and Reciprocity
- Creativity and Resourcefulness
- Curiosity and Reflectiveness

These are written into each week of our two year chronological and comprehensive worship programme for visiting speakers, leaders, teachers and for weekly class worship.

In addition to this, the major Christian festivals have a link to the core values:

- Christmas- Seeking God- Curiosity
- Easter- Forgiveness- Compassion
- Pentecost- Power- Confidence
- Harvest- Creation- Creativity
- Parents receive fortnightly newsletters which include a Bible passage for reflection linked to one of the four Living Values.
- The 'Golden Anchor Award' is presented during our weekly family Act of Worship.
- Links with local churches are very strong, with regular weekly speaker and children's workers speaking at Acts of Worship.
- St Clement's and St John's has a School Council, a Parent Teacher Association and opportunities for feedback and contributions.
- Both the infant and associative Junior school have a very well established parent's prayer group, pupil worship leaders and a worship bands.
- A Spirituality Senior Leadership Team from both schools to collaborate and ensure from St Clement's and St John's Infant to Bethany CE Junior school there is progression in spirituality
 - Spiritual Capacities: spiritual growth through self-awareness, reflection, empathy, imagination and creativity.
 - Spiritual Experiences: ways in which pupils can encounter the spiritual dimension of life.
 - Spiritual Understanding: making sense of the spiritual experiences encountered and exercised.
 - Spiritual responses: how this experience and understanding impacts on our lives and shapes the way in which we live our lives.

Approved by:

Date: November 2020

Last reviewed on: October 2019

Next review due by: November 2022

