

Spirituality Policy



Date agreed: June 2021

Review date: June 2024

Our vision

Our vision statement 'Explore, Enjoy, Excel together; be amazing' captures the ambition that we have for our children to be the best that they can be. We believe that every child is created uniquely and so it is our role to make sure that their individual gifts are nurtured so that children can reach their aspirations, believe in themselves and work together to achieve great things.

Our vision finds its root in Psalm 139, verse 14: 'I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made'.

Our vision motivates us to be a school community who through our vision and values create warm, supportive, positive relationships, allowing every person (staff, pupils, parents, governors and more) to 'be amazing' and 'be the best that they can be.'

Rationale

The aim of the St Mary's C of E Primary School is to give every pupil the opportunity to develop socially, intellectually, physically, emotionally and spiritually in order that they may achieve their potential. This policy sets out to examine the objectives and opportunities in the curriculum for spiritual development.

Aims

In St. Mary's C of E Primary School we aim

- To foster self-awareness.
- To enable pupils to have an understanding of the world around them.
- To develop a set of values, principles and beliefs.
- For these principles to affect pupils' behaviour in a positive way.
- To foster the ability in pupils to explain their beliefs.
- To encourage pupils to make informed decisions.
- To develop a sense of awe and wonder at the miracle of life, the natural worlds and the miracle of creation.
- To develop an awareness of Christian belief in God as creator and provider.

These objectives will enable the pupils to have a quality of life that encompasses respect, awareness, compassion, curiosity, understanding and relationships that reflect order, reason, balance and integrity.

Definition: At St Mary's, Spirituality is thought of as 'how we are fully human.':

Understanding **ourselves** (our connection with our world)

Understanding **others**

Understanding **beauty** (awe and wonder)

Understanding **beyond** (purpose and meaning in life).

Opportunities for Spirituality

In order to achieve the above aims children will be given the following opportunities:

- To look attentively and observe carefully, for example in art, science
- To listen with discernment to presentations in Literacy, R.E. music etc.
- To balance awareness with the reality of life experience in discussion.
- Time to be silent and to reflect on issues in moments of quiet or while music is playing.
- To value what is good and worthwhile and to make value judgements through discussion and exchange of views.
- To work collaboratively with peers, valuing the contribution made by others when working as a team e.g. on investigations
- To respect all, as modelled by staff in relationships with others.
- To experience calm and tranquil moments which afford time for reflection, e.g. during collective worship or following an inquiry.
- To work and live in harmony with others in the school 'family'.
- To have confidence to express opinion even if others do not agree.

This policy will be subject to regular review and amended when and if appropriate.

Written: November 2012. Reviewed June 2021 **Next review June 2024**