

HINTON ST GEORGE CHURCH of ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Let Your Light Shine'



SPIRITUAL AND MORAL POLICY

Reviewed: December 2021
Frequency of Review: Every two years
Next Review Date: December 2023

Signed:- _____
on behalf of Governing Body

Hinton St George CE Primary School

This Policy should be taken and used as part of Hinton St George Church of England School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our vision, Instrument of Government aims and values as a Church of England School.

This Policy statement has been formally adopted by the governing body, in consultation with the headteacher, and will be reviewed at the date given on the cover page.

HINTON ST GEORGE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Spiritual and Moral Policy

School Vision

'Let your Light Shine' (Matthew 5:16)

We are a family school at the heart of the community, providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian values, belief and practice. We aim to ensure that children flourish and leave the school fully equipped to go out and shine as lights in the world!

Ethos Statement

The Christian foundation of the school ensures that the spiritual development of the children and Christian values have a particular emphasis within the whole life of the school. In accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at parish and diocesan level, we aim to develop within our children not only an awareness of self and sensitivity to others, but also the acquisition of a set of moral values and the confidence to make moral judgements and develop habits of self-discipline and acceptable behaviour. The school aims to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practice.

Spirituality

Our spirituality statement encourages everyone to be reflective about their own beliefs on life and interests. The respect for other's faiths, feelings and values are of utmost importance. Spirituality differs from person to person and often changes within people during the own lifetime, therefore, putting a definition of 'spirituality' into words is difficult, as it is an experience that will be different to everyone. Spirituality does not necessarily mean having a religion or a faith, as a person can be spiritual without having a particular faith. Perhaps the most important aspect we feel, is creating a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about ourselves, others, and the world around us.

In school we have defined spirituality as:

'It is not something that you can see, but something that you feel in yourself and share with others; it is the enjoyment of the journey and not just the destination; it is the awareness of something bigger.'

OUR APPROACH

As a school we have a policy that is consistent with the Christian foundation set up with the local church and community. Within the school it is our aim to teach the children to develop a sense of curiosity about the world around them. At Hinton C of E Primary School, we seek to find ways in which all areas of the curriculum can contribute to children's spiritual development and to highlight opportunities for these in our planning. We allow children the opportunity to explore and express feelings and emotions and provide opportunities for silence, stillness, and prayer. We encourage children to develop relationships based on the Christian values of love,

forgiveness and service to others. This fosters and supports their spiritual and moral development both now and into their adult lives.

Our policy has been shared and adopted by the Governing Body in consultation with the Headteacher and is consistent with our overall aims as a school – see School Ethos above. It also takes account of the following guidance:

- Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) 2018 (Bath and Wells Diocese) can be accessed via the following link <http://www.bathandwells.org.uk/supporting-children/school-effectiveness/school-leadership/>
- Awareness, Mystery and Value (AMV – RE Syllabus)
- Understanding Christianity (Bath and Wells Diocese)

AIMS

At Hinton C of E Primary School, we aim to develop in every pupil:-

- A sense of self-worth stemming from the recognition that they are created in the image of God
- A sense of being in relationship with others and a growing understanding of what it means to be a community
- An involvement with others in the wider world and an appreciation of difference and diversity
- A willingness to explore Christian beliefs and values through a knowledge of Bible stories and Christian teaching in order that these might become a firm foundation for life for those of a Christian background
- An openness to learn and understand about other faiths and traditions that reflects the diversity of our school and our community
- The ability to reflect upon experiences of awe, compassion and beauty etc.
- The ability to realise that experiences of disappointment, failure and loss may be occasions for spiritual growth and development
- The ability to explore the ultimate questions and mysteries of life

Our school's approach is evident through:

- Collective Worship
- School Ethos Statement
- Behaviour Policy and Home/School Agreement
- Equality Duty Statement
- Religious Education
- Personal Social Health Education
- Each curriculum area
- Other areas of school life, including extra-curricular activities e.g. clubs, visits, visitors
- Links with the Parish Church
- Indoor and Outdoor Environment

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL/MORAL DEVELOPMENT

As a school we have an ethos where the children will always be able to develop their values. The opportunities for weekly conversation time and teacher led collective worship will have specific teaching points that will often be related to their development specifically.

In order to develop the children's spiritual development, we will provide opportunities for them to:

- ❖ Listen, reflect and question.
- ❖ Consider and discuss preferences and why.
- ❖ To develop their own values.
- ❖ To learn to understand that everyone has different values and beliefs.
- ❖ To learn and understand their feelings and responses to situations and feelings.
- ❖ To learn about life, changes and death.
- ❖ To learn about their own relationships with people and friends and family.

In terms of children's moral development, we will provide opportunities for them to

- ❖ Develop a sense of right and wrong.
- ❖ To learn about the responses of people to their behaviours.
- ❖ Learn about the needs and feelings of others.
- ❖ Learn to respect others as they wish to be respected.
- ❖ To be able to understand their own reactions.
- ❖ Reflect on right and wrong.
- ❖ Question right and wrong.

These opportunities will be given across curriculum subject areas, in collective worship and in both planned and unplanned opportunities as situations occur in school. These opportunities will also be linked to our school's Christian Values as listed below:

- ❖ Thankfulness
- ❖ Compassion
- ❖ Hope/Aspiration
- ❖ Perseverance
- ❖ Friendship
- ❖ Respect

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

The opportunities for monitoring the children's spiritual and moral development will be through the planning and provision of opportunities in all areas of the curriculum. The children will be given opportunities to express their views and ability to question and respect which also be used to monitor developing understanding. This will be monitored by Class Teachers and the Headteacher will oversee the monitoring and evaluation process.

Spiritual and Moral Development will be led by the senior teacher and Headteacher and all staff will access training in these areas as and when required.