



St Cecilia's Catholic Infant & Nursery School

Spiritual Development Policy

At St Cecilia's Catholic Infant School, we recognise that spiritual development is a vital part of the holistic development of pupils, integral to Christ's mission that 'all may have life, and have it to the full' (John 10:10)

We believe that spiritual education helps pupils to acquire insights into their personal existence that are of enduring worth

Spiritual development is concerned with how an individual acquires personal beliefs and values, especially on questions about religion, whether life has purpose, and the basis for personal and social behaviour; it is also about what a school provides - through its curriculum, through collective worship, through its ethos and climate - to help individuals to make sense of these questions, and about what it does to help form pupils response to life and to various forms of experience, or even to questions about the universe.

Spiritual development deals with what is supremely personal and unique to each individual. It is about asking who you are and where are you going. It seeks to promote the development of feelings, emotions and intellectual curiosity; it therefore requires teachers to lead pupils in the direction of open-ended enquiry and the invitation to take increasing responsibility for themselves and their work

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Aims

- To support pupils in developing insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values which will guide and motivate them. For many pupils these will encompass religious beliefs.
- To encourage children to reflect and to learn from their reflection.
- To be aware of and understand their own beliefs and those of other people, developing respect for themselves and others.
- To develop an appreciation for the intangible - beauty, truth, goodness, and mystery.

Objectives

- To foster an ethos where spiritual values are prized.

- To enrich spiritual values through the Catholic life of the school, with particular emphasis on Collective Worship.
- To promote spiritual values across the curriculum.
- To promote spiritual values in extra curricular.

We will achieve these objectives through

- The implementation of the Mission Statement.
- The Catholic life of our school encompassing Collective Worship, the RE curriculum, liturgies, assemblies, global focus work, (learning about the work of CAFOD) and 'Come and See for Yourself' sessions.
- The wider curriculum, for example through Literacy, Art work, Music, PE (particularly dance), PSHE, Science, History and Geography - all areas which lend themselves to creativity and /or the opportunity to question, relating their learning to a wider frame of reference.
- Inspirational opportunities e.g. 'The National Trust', school trips, Guest visitors
- The celebration of our work through reward assemblies, concerts and displays

It is suggested that children may display evidence of having benefited from provision intended to promote spiritual development if, at a level appropriate to their age and ability, they demonstrate such qualities as:

- knowledge of beliefs, ideas and practices;
- understanding of how people have sought to explain the universe through stories;
- beliefs which are held personally;
- behaviour and attitudes which show awareness of the relationship between belief and action;
- personal response to questions about the purpose of life, and to the experience of, e.g. beauty, love or suffering.

'Love one another as I have loved you'

This policy will be reviewed autumn 2017