



# Holy Trinity C of E Primary School

## Spiritual Development Policy



Our long-standing mission is to provide 'Excellent education in a Christian Environment'.

The ethos of Holy Trinity School is built upon love, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Matthew 22:39.

Our vision is for all pupils to achieve their fullest potential in all aspects of their lives. Our curriculum is designed to provide a rich and varied programme of activities and learning experiences to meet the needs, interests and aspirations of all learners, within and beyond the school day. The curriculum develops the ability for our children to flourish and gain a deeper view on life; understanding that children flourish because of diversity and we understand that this happens at different times and speeds. Flourishing enables children to look outwards, self-improve and deepen their knowledge.

We expect that all children will become creative, confident and respectful young adults who approach the next stage of their learning journeys with determination, enthusiasm and an ambitious outlook for their futures.

We believe that it is important that children have a strong awareness of their local community and locality and of whom they are and where they fit in the world. We want children to think about what they will do with what they have been given, thus ensuring they become committed learners (Matthew 25). We believe that successful learning depends on a positive partnership between home school and the wider community.

We encourage the principles of love, compassion, self-reliance, responsibility, trust and respect. Our shared Christian values reverberate through all aspects of school life. Worship, prayer and reflection are central to school life and involve the school, families and wider community.

Through a positive caring environment, we provide the opportunity for every child to reach their full potential. We embrace associated Christian values and ensure all children are ready for their next steps.

At Holy Trinity C of E Primary School we hold the Christian belief that human beings are created in the image of God, and that each shares in God's purposes to bring life and allow creation to flourish. This underpins the values and work of the school and is endorsed in our vision/mission statement

### ***Aims***

To develop in each child:

- 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 belong to a community.
- An involvement with others in the wider world and an appreciation of difference and diversity.
- A response to the distinctive ethos of a Church school and the content, language and symbolism of the Christian faith as a way of understanding our meaning and purpose in life.
- 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.
- The ability to reflect upon experiences of awe, compassion, beauty etc
- The ability to realise that experiences of disappointment, failure and loss can be occasions for spiritual growth and development
- A capacity to value the natural world and a commitment to care for creation
- A willingness to explore the ultimate questions and mysteries of life.

### ***Approaches***

In our 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 seek to foster spiritual capacities, e.g. imagination, insight and empathy.

We allow children the opportunity to explore and express feelings and emotions.

We provide opportunities for prayer including silence and stillness.

We share feelings and experiences that foster hope and joy, reassurance and encouragement.

We encourage children to develop relationships based on the Christian values of love, forgiveness and service to others.

We enable children to make the links between biblical values the life of the school and the wider community.

### ***Monitoring and Evaluation***

Opportunities offered to children for Spiritual Development will be monitored and evaluated in the following ways:

Monitoring of lesson plans and teaching and learning by co-ordinator/senior management/headteacher/governors.

Audit of policies and schemes of work.

Regular discussion at staff and governor meetings.

Sharing of classroom work and practice.

Evidence from pupils' work

Regular inclusion in SEF.