



"We believe, we achieve, we succeed in God's family"

THANKFULNESS □ COMMUNITY □ COMPASSION □ TRUTHFULNESS □ □ COURAGE □ □ FORGIVENESS

St Mary's C of E Primary School

Spirituality Policy

Staff consulted:

Ratified by the Governing Body:

Review Date: *Annual review*



Rationale

At St Mary's Church of England Primary School, spirituality is at the heart of who we are and what we do. We believe that every child and adult is a unique and valued individual, created in the image of God. Spirituality is not limited to religious belief but is a vital part of personal development, shaping our sense of identity, purpose, and relationships. We support our pupils in exploring life's big questions, developing a sense of awe and wonder, and recognising the importance of reflection, compassion, and respect for others.

Our school environment, curriculum, and worship life provide rich opportunities for spiritual growth. Our core values – forgiveness, compassion, thankfulness, courage, community, and truthfulness – guide how we live and learn together. These values are not only taught but are also modelled and celebrated throughout the school year, helping our children to flourish both individually and as part of a caring, connected community.

Aims

Through this policy, we aim to:

- Recognise and support the spiritual development of every child and adult.
- Embed opportunities for reflection, stillness, and wonder in the life of the school.
- Encourage curiosity about the world and promote a sense of meaning and purpose.
- Foster a Christian ethos that enables children to explore faith, values, and beliefs.
- Ensure spirituality is evident in relationships, the curriculum, worship, and the wider life of the school.
- Celebrate our Church of England foundation, while welcoming all members of our diverse school community

Defining Spirituality

Spirituality at St Mary's is understood as:

- A sense of *self*: awareness of one's thoughts, feelings, hopes, and emotions.
- A sense of *others*: empathy, compassion, and an understanding of our shared humanity.
- A sense of the *world and beauty*: noticing awe and wonder in nature, art, music, and human achievement.
- A sense of *God or the divine*: reflecting on faith, belief, prayer, and the presence of God in life.

Spirituality is nurtured in many ways across the school, including:

- Daily acts of worship provide opportunities for reflection, prayer, celebration, and encounter with Christian teachings.
- Worship draws on our Bible verse – "*With God, all things are possible*" – to encourage faith, resilience, and hope.

Our Definition

Spirituality helps us appreciate the beauty of life and deepens our understanding of ourselves, others, and the world.

At our school, it creates a sense of belonging, where love, kindness, and connection with God, nature, and each other help us flourish.

We value quiet moments for reflection, guiding us in how we live and grow, and reminding us that there is something greater than ourselves

Curriculum

- All subject areas offer spiritual insight: from exploring moral dilemmas in English to awe in science and creation in art and music.
- RE, especially, invites children to explore Christianity and other world faiths with curiosity and respect and to reflect on the impact it has on them.

Personal and Social Development

- We encourage self-awareness, emotional literacy, and respectful dialogue.
- Through PSHE and pastoral care, children are supported in making meaning of their experiences.

Spirituality in Our School

	<p>MIRRORS - SELF <i>Like looking in a mirror..</i> Thinking about ourselves and how we feel about things.</p>
	<p>WINDOWS - BEAUTY <i>Like looking through a window...</i> Looking at the world in new ways.</p>
	<p>DOORS - OTHERS <i>Like opening a door to welcome people in ...</i> Understanding how other people feel.</p>
	<p>CANDLE - BEYOND <i>Like watching a flame and thinking..</i> Reflecting on our learning and experiences.</p>

Spirituality within our school community is through:

- Reflection is like looking in a mirror and having time to reflect on the learning;
- Learning is like looking through a window to see new horizons;
- Responding is like going through a door considering how the learning will have an impact on yourself or your behaviour.
- Beyond is taking our learning and experiences and linking them to our own lives.

Inclusivity and Respect

As a Church of England school, we welcome children and families of all faiths and none. Spiritual development is not imposed but invited. We create a safe, inclusive space where every child is encouraged to ask questions, explore beliefs, and express their spirituality freely and respectfully.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Spiritual development is regularly reviewed through:

- Observations of worship and classroom practice.
- Pupil voice and reflection journals.
- Staff discussions and professional development.
- Feedback from governors and the wider school community.

Conclusion

At St Mary's, spirituality is a living thread running through all aspects of school life. It enables our children not only to *believe, achieve, and succeed* – but to grow into thoughtful, caring, and resilient individuals within *God's family*.