



ST. AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs. J. M. Farrimond, B.A. (Hons) N.P.Q.H

Spirituality Worship Policy

LEADER / CO-ORDINATORS	Mrs K. Gillard
GROUPS INVOLVED IN DISCUSSION	Headteacher Senior Leadership Team All Staff Governing Body Children Parents
LINK TO SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN	Priority 1 - Further develop the Catholic Life of the school and all that encompasses to ensure the school challenges itself further and remains outstanding in its delivery for all and places Jesus and the teachings of the Church at the centre of pupils' lives.

1. Introduction and Aims

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 questions which are 'at the heart and root of existence.'

The task of St. Aidan's Catholic Primary School is to provide effective ways of developing pupils' drive, sense of identity and self-worth, developing their principles, beliefs and values, including those that have a religious basis. This is done through the entire curriculum, through Collective Worship, through our ethos and climate in the way that we help individuals to make sense of these questions, and the way we help form pupils' response to life and to various forms of experience.

2. Mission Statement

As stated in our school's Mission Statement, our 3 aims are to-

- ~ Have a sense of responsibility and take an active part in serving our world;
- ~ Have a growing understanding of Gospel Values and gather together in prayer and Worship;
- ~ Have a passion for learning and an enjoyment for discovery

"Hand in Hand,

In the image of Jesus,

We grow together and celebrate who we are."

The staff of St. Aidan's Catholic Primary School will work to give each child the entitlement of a broad, balanced, differentiated curriculum (irrespective of ability) encouraging in every individual a sense of self-worth and self-esteem. All teaching and learning is underpinned by the school mission statement.

3. Audience

This Spirituality policy document is available to:

Teaching and Support Staff

Governors

Parents and other visitors to the staffroom

Supply Teachers

Inspectors

Copies of this policy are available through the school website and also through the school office on request.

4. The Aims and Objectives of Spirituality

- The development of insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values which guide and motivate us. For many pupils, these will have a significant religious belief;
- A developing understanding of feelings and emotions which causes us to reflect and to learn;
- For all pupils, a developing recognition that their insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values influence, inspire or guide them in life.

5. The Characteristics of Spirituality

- A set of values, principles and beliefs, which may or may not be religious, which inform their perspective on life and their patterns of behaviour;
- An awareness and understanding of their own and others' beliefs;
- A respect for themselves and for others;
- A sense of empathy with others, concern and compassion;
- An increasing ability to reflect and learn from this reflection;
- An ability to show courage in defence of their aims, values, principles and beliefs;
- A readiness to challenge all that would constrain the human spirit, for example, poverty of aspiration, lack of self-confidence and belief, moral neutrality or indifference, force, fanaticism, aggression, greed, injustice, narrowness of vision, self-interest, sexism, racism and other forms of discrimination;
- An appreciation of the intangible – for example, beauty, truth, love, goodness, order, as well as for mystery, paradox and ambiguity;
- A respect for insight as well as knowledge and reason;
- An expressive and/or creative impulse;
- An ability to think in terms of the 'whole' – example, concepts such as harmony, interdependence, scale, perspective;
- An understanding of feelings and emotions and their likely impact.

6. Curriculum and School Organisation

At St. Aidan's we encourage Spiritual development by –

- Giving pupils the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they impact on peoples' lives;
- Where pupils already have religious beliefs, supporting and developing these beliefs in ways which are personal and relevant to them;
- Encouraging pupils to reflect and learn from reflection;
- Giving pupils the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions, the way they affect people and how an understanding of them can be helpful;
- Developing a climate or ethos within which all pupils can grow and flourish, respect others and be respected;
- Accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals;
- Promoting teaching styles which:
 - value pupils' questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns;
 - enable pupils to make connections between aspects of their learning;



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- encourage pupils to relate their learning to a wider frame of reference – for example, asking 'why', 'how' and 'where' as well as 'what';
- monitoring in simple, pragmatic ways, the success of what is provided.

7. The role of the Governors

Our governors determine, support, monitor and review the school's approach to teaching and learning. In particular they:

- Support the use of appropriate teaching strategies by allocating resources effectively;
- Ensure that the school buildings and premises are used optimally to support teaching and learning;
- Check teaching methods in the light of health and safety regulations;
- Seek to ensure that our staff development and our performance management both promote good quality teaching;
- Monitor the effectiveness of the school's teaching and learning approaches through the school's self-review processes, which include reports from subject leaders and the termly headteacher's report to governors.

8. The role of Parents

We believe that parents have a fundamental role to play in helping children to learn. Every effort is made to inform parents about what and how their children are learning by:

- Holding parents' evenings to explain pupil progress.
- Sending information to parents, at the start of each term, which outlines the topics that the children will be studying during that term at school;
- Sending parents regular reports in which we explain the progress made by each child, and indicate how the child can improve further;
- Explaining to parents how they can support their children with homework, and suggesting, for example, regular shared reading with very young children, and support for older children with their projects and investigative work.

We believe that parents have the responsibility to support their children and the school in implementing school policies. We would therefore like parents to:

- Ensure that their child has the best attendance record possible;
- Ensure that their child is equipped for school with the correct uniform and PE kit;
- Do their best to keep their child healthy and fit to attend school;
- Inform school if there are matters outside of school that are likely to affect a child's performance or behaviour
- Promote a positive attitude towards school and learning in general;

9. Monitoring and Review

We are aware of the need to monitor the school's Spirituality policy, and to review it regularly, so that we can take account of new initiatives and research, changes in the curriculum, developments in technology or changes to the physical environment of the school. We will therefore review this policy every three years, or earlier if necessary.

This policy was last up-dated on	September 2025
Discussed and agreed with Governors	Quality of Education 10 th November 2025
Formal Review of Policy	September 2027

Signed: _____
Headteacher, Mrs J. M. Farrimond

Chair of Committee