

Cam Hopton Church of England Primary School (Voluntary Aided)

Life in all its fullness

Spiritual Development Policy

Document History

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This policy is to be reviewed in line with other related policies and any other documentation from the DfE, Ofsted and Gloucestershire Diocese.

1. Introduction

This policy outlines Cam Hopton CE Primary School's approach to fostering spirituality within our school community. It is rooted in our Christian vision, "Life in all its Fullness," and aims to create an environment where all members of the school community can explore, develop, and express their spirituality in a safe, inclusive, and meaningful way. This policy aligns with the Church of England vision and supports the school's commitment to providing a holistic education that nurtures the whole child.

2. Definition of Spirituality

At Cam Hopton we understand spirituality as:

- A search for meaning and purpose in life.
- A sense of connection to something bigger than ourselves, which may include God, nature, humanity, or the universe.
- The development and respect of personal values and beliefs.
- The capacity for reflection, awe and wonder.
- An appreciation of beauty and creativity.
- The ability to express ourselves through various means, such as art, music, writing, or movement.
- A sense of inner peace and well-being.

3. Aims and Objectives

We aim to:

- Provide opportunities for all children to explore and develop their spirituality.
- Create a school environment that fosters a sense of wonder, awe, and reflection.
- Promote the development of personal values and beliefs rooted in our Christian ethos.
- Encourage children to connect with something bigger than themselves.
- Support the spiritual well-being of all members of the school community.
- Ensure that spiritual development is inclusive and accessible to all, regardless of background or belief.
- Support the school in meeting the requirements of the SIAMS framework.

Objectives:

- To provide regular opportunities for collective worship that are inclusive, invitational, and inspirational.
- To integrate spiritual themes and activities into the curriculum across all subjects.
- To create reflective environments around the school.
- To offer opportunities for children to engage in creative expression.
- To provide staff with training and resources to support spiritual development.
- To involve parents and the wider community in promoting spirituality.
- To monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of our approach to spiritual development.

4. Implementation Strategies

To achieve our aims and objectives, we will implement the following strategies:

- **Collective Worship:**
 - Daily collective worship will be planned and delivered in accordance with the school's Christian foundation. This may be in the form of bible stories, songs and hymns, prayer and reflection.
 - Worship will be inclusive and invitational, catering to the diverse needs and backgrounds of all children and celebrating their achievements and demonstration of the school values in daily life.
 - Children will be given opportunities to contribute to the content of worship, particularly during whole school services and in Worship Council roles.
 - Worship themes will be linked to the school's Christian values and the liturgical year.
 - Partnerships with St George's Church and the wider Christian community will be strengthened to enhance worship and spirituality.
- **Curriculum:**
 - Spiritual themes and activities will be integrated into all areas of the curriculum, where appropriate.
 - Opportunities for reflection, discussion, and creative expression will be provided in all subjects.
 - The RE curriculum will be taught in accordance with the Gloucestershire Agreed Syllabus and will promote understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs in the wider world.
 - Outdoor learning and engagement with nature will be used to foster a sense of wonder and connection to the world.
 - Every three years the school will hold a 'Faith Fortnight' where opportunities to share experiences such as iSing Pop concerts, visits from different faith representatives and trips to places of worship are planned.
- **School Environment:**
 - Classrooms and communal areas will be designed to create a reflective and inspiring environment.
 - Displays will showcase children's reflections and creative work.
 - Quiet, inclusive spaces will be provided for prayer and reflection inside and outside.
 - The school grounds will be used to promote outdoor learning and engagement with nature.
- **Staff Development:**
 - Staff will receive training on spiritual development and how to promote it in the classroom.

- Staff will be encouraged to reflect on their own spirituality and how it informs their practice.
- Subject leaders will be responsible for ensuring that spiritual themes are integrated into their subject areas.
- **Partnerships with Parents and the Community:**
 - Parents will be informed about the school's approach to spiritual development.
 - Parents will be invited to participate in collective worship and other spiritual activities.
 - Invitational links with St George's Church and other community organisations will be valued and maintained. For example, St. George's supports spiritual development by inviting parents and children to Messy Church, services and contact with the vicar.
 - Visitors from different faiths and backgrounds will be invited to share their experiences and perspectives.
 - Other local schools are invited to share spiritual moments such as Remembrance services.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

- **The Governing Body** is responsible for ensuring that the school has a clear vision for spiritual development and that this policy is implemented effectively.
- **The Headteacher** is responsible for leading the implementation of this policy and for ensuring that it is aligned with the school's overall vision and values.
- **The RE Subject Leader** is responsible for overseeing the RE curriculum and for supporting teachers in integrating spiritual themes into their teaching.
- **The Collective Worship Leader** is responsible for planning, organising, and delivering opportunities for pupils and the school community to engage in collective worship and prayer that aligns with the school's ethos and values.
- **Class Teachers** are responsible for creating a classroom environment that fosters spiritual development and for providing opportunities for children to explore their spirituality.
- **All Staff** members have a role to play in promoting spiritual development by modelling positive values and attitudes and by creating a supportive and inclusive environment.
- **Children** are encouraged to participate actively in collective worship and other spiritual activities and to share their thoughts and feelings about spirituality.
- **Parents** are encouraged to support their children's spiritual development by discussing big themes at home and by supporting school activities.

6. Inclusion and Accessibility

Cam Hopton is committed to ensuring that spiritual development is inclusive and accessible to all children, regardless of their background, beliefs, or abilities.

- We will provide a range of opportunities for children to explore their spirituality in different ways, catering to their individual needs and preferences.
- We will be sensitive to the diverse religious and cultural backgrounds of our children and will promote understanding and respect for different faiths and beliefs.
- We will make reasonable adaptations to ensure that children with SEND can participate fully in collective worship and other spiritual activities.
- We will challenge stereotypes; champion protected characteristics and promote equality of opportunity for all.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored and evaluated through:

- Regular feedback from children, staff, and parents.
- Observations of collective worship and classroom activities.
- Analysis of children's work and reflections.
- Review of school policies and practices.
- SIAMS self-evaluation.
- Staff meetings to discuss the policy and its implementation.

The findings of the monitoring and evaluation will be used to inform future planning and to improve the school's approach to spiritual development.

8. Safeguarding

Cam Hopton CE Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. This policy will be implemented in accordance with the school's safeguarding policy.

- All staff will receive training on safeguarding and child protection.
- Any concerns about a child's well-being will be reported to the designated safeguarding lead.
- We will ensure that all activities are conducted in a safe and responsible manner, considering the well-being of children and adults at all times.

9. Links to Other Policies

This policy is linked to the following school policies:

- Safeguarding Policy
- Inclusion Policy
- RE Policy
- Collective Worship Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- SEND Policy