



CHEW STOKE CHURCH SCHOOL

Spirituality Policy

This policy is written with reference to the Christian Foundation of the school.

'Confident in Learning, Caring in Life'

Our vision has been inspired by Luke 10:27

This policy should be taken and used as part of Chew Stoke Church School's overall strategy and implemented within the context of our aims and values as a Church of England School.

Introduction

We recognise that the development of spirituality is important for all children, regardless of their faith or beliefs.

As a Christian school, we teach the children about the Holy Trinity and about Christian understanding of spirituality.

We also encourage the children to look around them; to value the beauty of the world, be understanding towards all humanity and to understand and relate to their own emotions.

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 relationships 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, wonder, compassion, beauty etc.
- The ability to realise that experiences of disappointment, failure and loss may be occasions for spiritual growth and development.
- The ability to explore the ultimate questions and mysteries of life.

Objectives

In our school we seek to find ways in which all areas of the curriculum can contribute to the child's spiritual development and to highlight opportunities for these in our planning:

- to seek to foster spiritual capacities e.g. imagination, insight and empathy
- to allow children the opportunity to explore and express feelings and emotions

- to provide opportunities for silence, reflection and prayer
- to share feelings and experiences that foster hope and joy, reassurance and encouragement
- to encourage children to develop relationships based on the Christian values of love, forgiveness and service to others
- to link the concerns of the gospel with the life of the school and the wider community

Role of the School

- To teach a rich and diverse spiritual education through the Somerset agreed R.E. syllabus.
- To monitor and evaluate the spiritual development of our pupils including: monitoring of lesson plans and teaching and learning.
- To provide daily acts of collective worship developing various aspects of spirituality

Equal Opportunities

We recognise that families may hold different beliefs or follow different religions and as such, by request, children may be withdrawn from some aspects of religious education, such as collective worship.

However, all pupils will have access to spiritual development through the ethos of the school which underpins this policy.

Spiritual development is, in itself, inclusive as it will enable each individual and their individual needs to grow spiritually.

Links to other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with the following;

- R.E. policy
- Collective Worship
- Equal opportunities

Date: Sept 2022

Review Date: Sept 2024