



The Manor School

Spirituality Policy

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Our School Vision

You are amazing, loved, valued, wonderful and unique... God made you this way.

"I have come that they might have life and have it to the full." John 10:10

We are committed to creating a positive, safe and nurturing Christian environment, where all members of the school and wider community will be respected and valued.

All we do at our school will be underpinned by the above vision. This policy should be read and understood from this perspective.

Our aim

"If the spiritual is properly and fully addressed, the moral, social and cultural will fall into place more easily"- Alan Brown (formerly of the National Society)

Salisbury Diocese definition of Spirituality

- Self (being a unique person and understanding self-perception)
- Others (how empathy, concern, compassion and other values and principles affect relationships)
- World and Beauty (perceiving and relating to the physical and creative world through responses to nature and art)
- Beyond (relating to the transcendental and understanding experiences and meaning outside of the 'every day.')

<https://www.salisbury.anglican.org/schools/spiritual>

The development of spirituality can be planned into every aspect of the curriculum and daily school life. We also acknowledge that children are naturally displaying their spiritual development without the need for planned moments.

The Manor School's definition of Spirituality

At The Manor, we aim to give all children opportunities to think about themselves, others, the beauty of creation and the world beyond. We encourage children to become independent

thinkers and wonderers. We model an environment of inclusion and respect. We allow children the space, process, imagination, relationships, intimacy and trust to be unique spiritual beings. The spiritual experiences our children have can be precious, meaningful and they are given the space, time, relationships and trust to express these.

Our Christian Values

At The Manor, we have 5 core Christian Values – respect, responsibility, compassion, courage and trust. The values and our vision were reviewed in September 2022. During terms 1 and 2 of the current academic year we will focus on each of the values each week on a rolling programme. From Term 3 we will explore one of the Christian Values in more depth each term.

How is spirituality promoted at The Manor?

We recognise that the children's spirituality can be independent and thoughtful acts.

We also ensure there are opportunities planned in throughout each day to support their development:

- Mirrors, windows and doors. 'Mirror' moments allow the everyone to reflect on an aspect of spirituality. 'Window' moments encourage us to look out into the world and engage in uncertainty, awe and wonder. 'Door' moments allow everyone to respond to aspects and go on a journey with their and others' thoughts and reflections.
- Environment: We use the local Church as a natural, sacred place where we can engage in spirituality. The environment where our whole school and class Collective Worship takes place provide sounds, images and actions to encourage spirituality. Our peace/sensory garden is also a calm environment for everyone to reflect in.
- Creativity – The use of stories, music, art and using our imagination help express our innermost thoughts, feelings and reflections about ourselves, others, the world and beyond.
- Prayer – Everyone is invited to join in with prayers during Collective Worship as well as lead a prayer based on their thoughts and feelings from a Collective Worship. We encourage children to take the lead in some of these prayers too.
- Asking big questions – Children are given opportunities in their RE, and other lessons, to ask big enquiry questions which may have more than one answer, no answer or may

have different opinions. These questions may come from RE and Collective Worship or when children independently question the world around them. A display is in the school to show their big questions and someone from our Church community will be discussing these with children.

- Uncertainty, awe and wonder – We want our children to understand, embrace and challenge ideas. To realise we live in a world where there is uncertainty but still have the ability to accept this positively while discovering the awe and wonder around us.
- Relationships and trust – An important part of personal growth is developing positive relationships with those around us and recognising their value and worth. By having these strong and trusting relationships, the children are able to feel comfortable and safe to share their spiritual development with others.
- Beliefs and Christian Values – We recognise there are different faiths in our school and we need to uphold our Christian Value of respect when these are explored and shared. Along with the religious faiths, we link our Christian Values to our spiritual development. Exploring how our Christian Values help underpin our spirituality and vice versa.
- Feelings and Emotions – Every class has an emotional and positive reflection area in their classroom. This helps provide opportunities for children to reflect on theirs and other's feelings and emotions, as well as recognise the positivity in their classroom and how it impacts them, others, the school environment and world. We want there to be a sense of belonging, respect and kindness to one another during our spiritual moments. During our Celebration Worship, our teachers share proud moments from the week and experiences of our Christian Value while explaining how this impacts them, others and the school.

How do we nurture spirituality at The Manor?

- Planning spiritual opportunities throughout the day.
- Recognising and promoting spiritual moments.
- Christian Value based Collective Worship.
- Children led prayers and Collective Worship.
- Opportunity for prayer around school.
- Caring for our environment.

- School Vision and Ethos.
- Relationships with St. Michael's Church and the wider community.
- RE Exploration Days.
- Behaviour policy.
- Display and images around the school.
- Allowing children the time and space to reflect quietly.
- Promotion of spirituality and living by our values led by our worship council.

How is spirituality monitored at The Manor?

- Governors
- Pupil voice
- Teacher discussions and observations
- Prayer Council
- SIAMs criteria and framework
- Visitor and parents feedback