



Spirituality at Yalding St Peter and St Paul Primary School

Our Christian Vision and Values

"I came to give life - life in all its fullness" - John 10:10

At Yalding St Peter and St Paul Church of England Primary School, our Christian vision is rooted in the belief that every child is uniquely valued and has the potential to flourish.

Our vision is expressed through our Christian values of Love, Respect and Responsibility. These values shape the way we learn, worship, build relationships and contribute to our school and wider community.

We believe that education should nurture the whole person. Spiritual development is therefore an integral part of school life and is closely connected to our Christian vision. Through opportunities to wonder, question, reflect, connect and respond, we seek to help children develop the inner resources they need to live purposeful, compassionate and flourishing lives.

What do we mean by Spirituality?

Spirituality cannot simply be taught. It is an innate human capacity for awe, wonder, curiosity and reflection, inviting us to consider what gives life meaning and purpose.

As a Church of England school, our understanding is rooted in the Christian story and the belief that every person is made in the image of God and called to lives of love, hope, compassion and service.

We recognise that spirituality is experienced differently by each person. We encourage children to ask questions, explore different perspectives and reflect on themselves, others and the world around them.

Ultimately, spiritual development helps children to notice, wonder, reflect, connect and respond.



Our Understanding of Spirituality

We believe spirituality should influence every aspect of education and life. All areas of the curriculum therefore provide opportunities for pupils to develop spiritually through learning, relationships, experiences and reflection.

For our Yalding Community, spirituality is about the flourishing of all linking to our vision or 'life in all its fullness'.

It involves developing an awareness of four interconnected areas:

Self	Understanding who we are, including our: • identity and individuality; • emotions and experiences; • strengths and areas for development; • values and beliefs; • hopes, dreams and aspirations; • choices and responsibilities.	Children are encouraged to develop self-awareness, resilience and confidence and to reflect on what matters to them.
Others	Developing meaningful relationships and recognising our connection and responsibility to others through: • empathy; • compassion; • respect; • inclusion; • friendship;	Children are encouraged to listen to and learn from the experiences and perspectives of others and to recognise the impact of their choices and actions.



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	● forgiveness; ● service; ● community.	
The World	Developing an appreciation of: ● beauty and nature; ● creativity and the arts; ● culture and diversity; ● the natural environment; ● the wider world; ● the interconnectedness of living things.	Children are encouraged to experience awe and wonder and to consider their responsibility to care for God's creation.
Meaning and the Beyond	Exploring deeper questions about: ● purpose and meaning; ● existence; ● life and death; ● God and faith; ● mystery; ● hope; ● what may lie beyond our immediate experience.	Children are encouraged to develop the confidence to ask big questions and to recognise that some questions may not have simple or immediate answers.



How we nurture spirituality

At Yalding St Peter and St Paul Church of England Primary School, spiritual development is not taught as a discrete subject. It is intentionally woven through the curriculum, Collective Worship and the everyday life of our school community.

We recognise that spirituality develops through both planned opportunities and spontaneous moments.

Planned	Intentional	Lived	Responsive
Teachers identify opportunities across the curriculum for children to: experience awe and wonder, reflect on significant questions, appreciate beauty, consider different perspectives, make meaningful connections, reflect on their own experiences and connect learning with our Christian vision and values.	Spiritual development is an intentional part of school life. Adults model our Christian values through their relationships, language and behaviour, while reflection, questioning and discussion encourage children to think deeply about themselves, others, God and the wider world.	Spirituality is experienced through everyday life, including relationships, play, learning, celebration, challenge, forgiveness, reconciliation and service. Our Christian vision is reflected in the way we care for and support one another.	Some of the most significant spiritual moments cannot be planned. Adults recognise and respond to opportunities for children to pause, wonder, question, express emotions and reflect. These may arise through: awe and wonder in nature, significant events or experiences, achievement or challenge, moments of kindness or reconciliation, questions about God, life or the world, experiences of loss or change.



The Windows, Mirrors and Doors Approach

We use the Windows, Mirrors and Doors approach throughout school to help children develop spiritually.

Windows – Looking Out	Mirrors – Looking Within	Doors – Stepping Out
Windows provide opportunities for children to look beyond themselves. Windows help children to see beyond their own immediate experience.	Mirrors provide opportunities for children to reflect on themselves. Mirrors help children to understand themselves more deeply.	Doors provide opportunities for children to respond. Doors help children to understand that reflection can lead to action.
Children are encouraged to: ● encounter different people, cultures, faiths and worldviews; ● listen to the experiences and perspectives of others; ● explore the natural world; ● encounter inspiring people and stories; ● consider questions of justice, fairness and responsibility; ● experience awe, wonder and beauty; ● learn about the wider world and their place within it.	Children are encouraged to: ● recognise and express their feelings; ● consider their identity and values; ● reflect on choices and consequences; ● recognise their strengths; ● consider areas for development; ● reflect on relationships and experiences; ● explore life's big questions; ● develop resilience and self-awareness; ● consider what they believe and why.	Children are encouraged to: ● put their values into action; ● show kindness and compassion; ● serve others; ● care for God's creation; ● take responsibility; ● demonstrate courage; ● participate in community life; ● promote fairness and inclusion; ● resolve conflict and seek reconciliation; ● make positive changes in school and the wider community.



Collective Worship

Collective Worship is a central expression of our Christian vision and makes a significant contribution to the spiritual development of children and adults.

Daily Collective Worship provides opportunities to:

- encounter biblical teaching;
- engage with prayer and reflection;
- experience stillness and silence;
- ask questions and wonder;
- celebrate Christian festivals and the Church's calendar;
- reflect on our values of Love, Respect and Responsibility;
- consider how Christian faith influences everyday life;
- respond through thought, prayer, music and action.

Collective Worship is invitational and inclusive, enabling every member of our community to participate in ways that are meaningful and respectful of their own beliefs and circumstances.

Through Collective Worship, children are given opportunities to explore spirituality through Self, Others, The World, and Meaning and the Beyond, using the Windows, Mirrors and Doors approach.