

Spirituality Policy

Leasingham St. Andrew's Church of
England Primary School

'Everything you do, do in love'



Reviewed and updated: January 2026

Next review: January 2029

1. Purpose and Rationale

This policy outlines the school's approach to fostering spirituality within the school community, aligning with our school vision:

Everything you do, do in love'

At St Andrew's, we seek to be a safe and happy environment, inspiring our school family to be positive participants in the world community. A place where we are all encouraged, through love and service, to be the very best.

John 13:34 'Love one another, as I have loved you'

We acknowledge that spirituality is a fundamental aspect of human experience, encompassing beliefs, values, a sense of purpose and a connection to something greater than oneself. This policy aims to create a nurturing environment where all members of the school community can explore and develop their spirituality, regardless of their background or beliefs.

2. Our School definition of Spirituality

At St. Andrew's, we appreciate opportunities to value ourselves, each other and our surroundings. We seek to engage with our spirituality through recognising our relationship with the creator God and connecting with feelings that are greater than ourselves. We reflect on these experiences and consider how they affect our lives and the lives of others, to enable us to make a positive impact on the world we live in.

We explore spirituality through three lenses:

Windows - are for looking out onto the world and becoming aware of its wonders, both the 'wows' and 'ows'; things that are 'awe-full' and make us wonder and be grateful and things that are 'awful' and make us wonder and ask questions. Our curriculum at St. Andrew's, and life itself, is full of opportunities to recognise this sensitively.

Mirrors - are for looking into and reflecting, alone and together, to see things more clearly, for thinking and asking important questions, learning from our own and each other's responses. At St. Andrew's, we allow time for individual and group reflection and sharing of perspectives. Some subjects and times allow for this specifically, such as religious education and collective worship but in all subjects, there will be opportunities, unexpected or planned, when things just 'crop up'. We aim to make the most of all these times.

Open Doors - are for looking through in order to then act or express this by way of response. For example, for moving on, making choices, or doing something creative, active and purposeful. This can simply be done through a change in attitude or behaviour or thinking. It can also be expressed powerfully through music or art or drama or dance and through some form of social action or specific acts of giving.

3. Legal and Regulatory Framework

This policy is informed by and compliant with:

- The Education Act 2002
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children Act 2004
- The OFSTED Inspection Framework (particularly the focus on personal development and well-being)
- SIAMS Framework 2023 (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools)

4. Aims and Objectives

The aims of this policy are to:

- Provide opportunities for all children and adults to explore their own spirituality
- Promote an understanding and respect for different beliefs and values
- Develop children's sense of self-awareness, empathy, and compassion
- Encourage children and adults to reflect on their experiences and learn from them
- Create a school environment that fosters a sense of belonging and community
- Support the spiritual development of all staff members

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Integrate spiritual development into the curriculum
- Provide opportunities for collective worship and reflection
- Create a supportive and inclusive school environment
- Provide training and resources for staff on spiritual development
- Regularly review and evaluate the effectiveness of this policy

5. Implementation Strategies

5.1 Curriculum

- Integrate opportunities for spiritual reflection and discussion into all areas of the curriculum, where appropriate
- Use stories, poems, music, art, and drama to explore spiritual themes
- Encourage children to ask questions and express their own ideas
- Provide opportunities for children to learn about different faiths and cultures
- Use the outdoor environment to promote a sense of wonder and connection to nature
- Ensure the RE curriculum allows for spiritual growth and reflection

5.2 Collective Worship

- Provide regular opportunities for collective worship that are inclusive and engaging for all children and adults
- Create a welcoming and reflective atmosphere
- Use a variety of formats, including stories, songs, prayers and time for personal reflection
- Reflect the school's Christian vision and values

5.3 School Environment

- Create a welcoming and inclusive school environment where all children and adults feel valued and respected
- Promote positive relationships between children and adults
- Encourage children to be kind, compassionate, and respectful of others
- Provide opportunities for children to contribute to the school community
- Display artwork and other materials that promote spiritual themes

5.4 Staff Development

- Provide training and resources for staff on spiritual development
- Encourage staff to reflect on their own spirituality
- Support staff in creating a spiritually enriching classroom environment
- Provide opportunities for staff to share their ideas and experiences

6. Specific opportunities to engage in Spiritual Development

At St. Andrew's Church of England Primary School, we have agreed on specific ways that we will look to enhance spiritual development. These include:

- Mapping out opportunities for spiritual development within our curriculum. These are held on year-group curriculum maps, as well as a whole school version
- Ad-hoc opportunities for spiritual development. These are occasions that are not planned, but where teachers will capitalise on opportunities to explore spirituality further. For example, this could be through discussions that occur within class that lead to spiritual moments or via conversations held throughout the school day
- Opportunities to develop spirituality through Collective Worship, both as a whole school and in class (through using Picture News)
- A planned opportunity at least once a week as a whole class to explore spirituality
- The Windows, Mirrors and Open Doors approach will be used to articulate the opportunities above

7. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Governing Body:** Responsible for approving and monitoring the implementation of this policy
- **Headteacher:** Responsible for the overall implementation of this policy
- **All Staff:** Responsible for promoting spiritual development in their interactions with children and colleagues
- **Children:** Responsible for engaging in opportunities for spiritual reflection and growth

8. Monitoring and Evaluation

The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored through:

- Lesson observations
- Collective Worship observations
- Pupil voice surveys
- Staff feedback
- Parent feedback
- SIAMS Inspection

Links to Other Policies

This policy is linked to the following school policies:

- Religious Education
- Collective Worship
- Behaviour and Relationships
- SEND
- Equality
- Safeguarding and Child Protection
- Anti-Bullying