

SPIRITUALITY - Windows Mirrors and Doors

A framework for a common reflective structure for spirituality

A focus on spirituality enables our children to be happy, to flourish and to live life in all its fullness.

As a school, we have chosen to use the Windows, Mirrors, Doors concept as a common reflective structure for spirituality:



Windows are for looking out onto the world and becoming aware of its wonders, both the 'wows' and 'Oooos'; things that are 'awe-full' and make us wonder and be grateful and things that are 'awful' and make us wonder and ask questions. The whole curriculum and life itself are 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 and learning from our own and each other's responses. In schools we must allow time for this 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'. Handled sensitively, it is possible to make the most of all these opportunities.



Doors are for looking through in order to then act or express this in some way in response; for moving on, making choices, and doing something creative, active and purposeful in response. This can simply be done through a change in attitude, behaviour or thinking. It can also be expressed powerfully through the creative and performance arts and through some form of social action or specific acts of giving.

Spiritual development will happen in all aspects of school life and beyond. There will be opportunities in the classroom woven throughout our curriculum, there will be space and time given during our collective worship and SMSC learning. We are committed to modelling, leading and supporting all of our school community to enjoy and appreciate the strength and faith in oneself that spirituality can bring.

How do we provide opportunities for spiritual development?

In school we a wide range of activities throughout the week and school year that help develop spirituality across different areas of the curriculum. A non-exhaustive list of these are as follows:

- Daily worship
- Pupil led worship
- Individual responses to worship
- Promotion of the school's vision
- Daily promotion of school values
- Interschool competition
- Pastoral Care
- Leadership Opportunities for pupils
- Residential Visits

How do we recognise spiritual development?

Spiritual Capacities - which include children's ability to:

- be guided by their beliefs and values and be willing to take a stand to defend them
- be self-aware and empathise with the experience of others in the school and wider community
- love themselves, care for themselves, believe in their potential to achieve, and find inner strength and resilience when facing challenges
- exercise imagination and creativity, appreciate beauty in the world and be alive to experiences of awe and wonder
- be intrigued by mystery and be open to an awareness of the transcendent in the whole of life
- be comfortable with stillness and silence and open to engage in reflection/meditation/prayer
- be ready to say sorry when mistakes are made, to forgive themselves and to forgive others
- be willing to take risks and to reflect, learn and grow following experiences of failure as well as success
- demonstrate curiosity and open mindedness when exploring life's big questions
- appreciate and be thankful for what is good in life like friends and family, and show generosity towards others.