



Spirituality Policy

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2025-2028

From small beginnings come great things"

The Parable of the Mustard Seed – Matthew 13:31–32

At Cadmore End, we are guided by our Christian and British values and enriched by the unique strengths of our small-school community. We are committed to nurturing every child's educational, pastoral, and emotional development through a personalised and exceptional learning experience. In doing so, we empower each child to flourish within our school family and beyond, preparing them for a confident and purposeful future.

Learning: While we recognise that spirituality cannot be taught as a discrete subject like English or Religious Education, we firmly believe that creating opportunities for spiritual development is equally vital. By weaving spirituality throughout our curriculum and daily life, we support pupils not only in reaching their full academic potential but also in growing as reflective, compassionate individuals. Most importantly, this approach ensures that our Christian vision and values are not only present but truly embedded in all that we do.

Together: We believe that for children to truly experience and develop their spirituality, a strong sense of belonging and togetherness is essential. At Cadmore End, our small school environment nurtures close relationships, mutual care, and a deep sense of community. This supportive and inclusive atmosphere provides the ideal foundation for each child to grow as a spiritual being, feeling valued, connected, and part of something greater than themselves.

Life: We recognise that spirituality evolves and deepens over time. At Cadmore End, we aim to provide rich spiritual opportunities and meaningful experiences that will not only support children in the present but also lay the foundations for a lifelong spiritual journey. Through reflection, wonder, and connection, we hope each child leaves our school equipped to navigate life with purpose, resilience, and a deep sense of self and belonging.

We understand spirituality as the growing awareness of ourselves, of others, and of the world around us often marked by moments of awe, wonder, reflection, and inspiration. We believe that every member of our school community is a spiritual being, capable of encountering and responding to these profound experiences. As a Church of England school, we also recognise that for those with

a religious faith, such moments can deepen their relationship with God and strengthen their spiritual journey.

Our aim:

To create a nurturing and inspiring environment that supports the spiritual development of every pupil. Through a carefully considered approach, we seek to provide opportunities that allow children to flourish spiritually, emotionally, and intellectually. To achieve this, we strive to:

- Foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination;
- Encourage reflection on moments of awe, compassion, beauty, and wonder;
- Nurture a deep appreciation for the natural world and a commitment to care for creation;
- Equip children with the language and confidence to explore life's big questions and mysteries;
- Cultivate a strong sense of belonging and what it means to be part of a community;
- Promote strategies that support positive mental health and emotional well-being;
- Help children understand and make sense of their emotions in response to life's experiences;
- Recognise that challenges such as disappointment, failure, and loss can lead to spiritual growth;
- Encourage an understanding and appreciation of difference and diversity through meaningful relationships with others;
- Affirm each child's unique worth as a person made in the image of God;
- Develop a clear understanding of our school's vision and values;
- Deepen knowledge of our core Christian values and the Biblical teaching that underpins them;
- Cultivate respect for others' beliefs and faiths, alongside the ability to explore and articulate their own.

Through these objectives, we aim to nurture a quality of life that reflects and embodies our school vision and core values: **respect, love, honesty, empathy, courage, and faith.**

Teaching and learning

Through teaching and learning, the school pursues the aims and objectives by ensuring:

- The curriculum and all areas of our community life will be driven by the school's Christian vision and values;
- Opportunities for spiritual development are actively planned into the curriculum and encouraged in all areas of school life;
- Unplanned and spontaneous opportunities for spiritual development are recognised, acknowledged and/or celebrated by staff and children;
- Collective worship celebrates the love of God for every individual and provides opportunities for children to respond and reflect on this;
- A solid understanding of the Christian concept of God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit; of prayer and of the Bible is nurtured and developed;
- That we allocate appropriate areas in the school building and outdoor environment which provide time for silence, stillness and prayer;
- That children's spiritual capacities such as imagination, empathy and insight are fostered through the creative arts and interactive multi-sensory teaching strategies making use of the outdoor environment and relevant educational visits;

- The provision of opportunities to listen attentively and observe carefully, listening with discernment, valuing what is good and worthwhile and making judgements through discussion and exchange of views and ideas, in lessons, collective worship and daily interactions with adults;
- Support for learning to live with success and failure for themselves and with others;
- That the RE curriculum delivers knowledge and understanding of spirituality from a number of world faith and world view perspectives;
- That children are given as many opportunities as possible to explore the wonder of the natural world and to develop an understanding of the Christian belief that creation is a gift from God to be enjoyed, cherished and protected;
- Promotion of strategies for positive mental health.

At Cadmore End, we are committed to embedding our Christian vision and values across all aspects of teaching and learning. Spiritual development is integral to our school ethos and is nurtured through both planned and spontaneous opportunities in everyday school life.

Our Commitment

We pursue our aims and objectives for spiritual development by ensuring that:

- The curriculum and all areas of school life are underpinned by our Christian vision and values;
- Opportunities for spiritual growth are intentionally planned within the curriculum and encouraged across the wider school community;
- Staff and pupils are responsive to unplanned moments of spiritual significance, recognising, celebrating, and learning from them;
- Collective worship is central to school life, celebrating the unconditional love of God and providing regular opportunities for reflection and personal response;
- Pupils develop a secure understanding of key Christian concepts, including God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; the significance of prayer; and the teachings of the Bible;
- Designated spaces, both indoors and outdoors, are made available for stillness, prayer, and contemplation;
- Children's spiritual capacities such as imagination, empathy, and insight are cultivated through the creative arts, multi-sensory teaching, outdoor learning, and enrichment experiences;
- Listening, observation, and discernment are promoted through thoughtful dialogue and discussion in lessons, worship, and daily interactions;
- Children are supported in managing both success and failure, developing resilience and empathy for others;
- The RE curriculum provides meaningful engagement with spirituality across a range of world faiths and worldviews;
- Frequent opportunities are provided for pupils to explore and appreciate the wonder of the natural world, with a focus on the Christian belief that creation is a gift from God to be cherished and protected;
- Strategies for promoting and supporting positive mental health are actively implemented and integrated into school life.

Our Approaches

We aim to promote spiritual development throughout the curriculum and school experience by:

- Encouraging imagination, insight, empathy, and other spiritual capacities;
- Creating a secure, inclusive environment where children feel safe to explore and express their feelings and celebrate diversity;
- Providing opportunities for children to engage with life's fundamental questions about meaning, purpose, and existence and to share their thoughts and insights;
- Incorporating moments of stillness, silence, and prayer into the rhythm of the school day;
- Fostering hope, joy, reassurance, and encouragement through shared experiences and emotional support;
- Building strong, respectful relationships grounded in our Christian values;
- Helping pupils make meaningful connections between Biblical teaching, the Church, the school community, and the wider world;
- Maintaining an environment that invites reflection, contemplation, and wonder.

Monitoring and Evaluation

While spiritual development cannot be measured in conventional terms and continues throughout life, the opportunities we provide can be thoughtfully monitored and evaluated through:

- Observation of and listening to pupils in a range of contexts;
- Discussions during staff and governor meetings to reflect on the effectiveness of spiritual provision in relation to our Christian vision and values;
- Sharing and celebrating classroom work and spiritual moments across the school;
- Reviewing evidence from pupils' work, including RE, science, creative writing, and art.