Christian Distinctiveness Policy Handbook

St. Andrew's CE Infant School



Learning, Caring and Growing Together in Faith

Our School Motto

'Learning, Caring and Growing together in Faith'

Our Vision

St Andrew's Infant School is a Christian school where children are happy, nurtured and love learning. Through an inspiring and aspirational curriculum, we strive to ensure our children flourish spiritually, academically, and creatively to become confident, resilient learners. Everyone here learns, cares and grows together in faith.

Our Values



Our Christian Narrative:

'God is my strength in whom I trust.' Psalm 18

Our Bible story:

The parable of the two builders - Matthew 7

Contents

- **Religious Education** page 3
- **RE Overview** page 5
- Collective Worship page 7
- Collective Worship Overview page 10
- School Prayer and Lunch time Prayer page 18
- Spirituality page 19
- Courageous Advocacy page 24
- Spirituality in Religious Education page 25

Religious Education

<u>Intent</u>

The aim of Religious Education at our school is to help children to acquire and develop knowledge and understanding of Christianity and the other principal religions represented in Great Britain. We aim to understand the way that religious beliefs shape our lives and our behaviour, develop the ability to make reasoned and informed judgements about religious and moral issues and enhance our spiritual, moral, social and cultural development. St. Andrew's pupils will also be taught to understand and use appropriate vocabulary linked to their R.E. curriculum, which will support their development in other curriculum areas such as English too.

Implementation

Our curriculum follows the Blackburn Diocesan Board of Education R.E. Syllabus for Church Schools. This is entitled Questful R.E. and is creative and challenging for our children in school. Using this programme of study, we have designed our own overview of R.E lessons and also have special days where we teach supplementary units, for example, Easter around the World. Through Religious Education, the children develop an understanding of the Old Testament, the New Testament and the sequence of the Bible. Our curriculum is in line with the National Content Standard for Religious Education in England document.

RE is taught in single year groups every week. For each unit, a series of inspiring lessons are planned, with clear knowledge based learning objectives and progressive subject-specific vocabulary. Although key celebrations such as Christmas and Easter may be visited many times during a child's time in school, a different aspect and learning experience will be covered, so that progression can be seen in the quality and depth of learning.

Christianity is central to the teaching of Religious Education. Teaching other world faiths and world views are also included and at St. Andrew's we teach children about Islam, Hinduism, Judaism and Humanism. Within the curriculum time for RE, Christianity occupies 60% of the time and 40% of the time is devoted to the study of other World Faiths.

Our pupils are challenged through reflective questioning and enquiry based learning. We promote reflective thinking and questioning, and encourage our children to dive deeper into their learning journey. Through our RE curriculum, children discover more about themselves, their relationships with others, their relationship with the world around them and their relationship with God.

Impact

Teachers assess learning in Religious Education against the Blackburn Diocese ladder of expectation. Evidence of work in Religious Education can be found in children's RE books including floor books, on wall displays, in collective worship, in class worship and in the way both children and adults treat and respect each other.

Enrichment opportunities, including outdoor learning, inspirational visitors and exciting educational visits (Christianity and other world faiths), provide our children with rich experiences and enhance teaching, learning and knowledge.

Our Religious Education curriculum promotes children's Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural development, ensuring that they are reflective and responsible citizens. Fundamental British Values are actively promoted in Religious Education lessons in order to prepare the children for life in Modern Britain.

Teachers have high expectations and high quality evidence presented in a variety of forms. Our children have an education that will develop them spiritually, socially, academically, emotionally and morally to enable them to better understand themselves and others and to cope with the opportunities, challenges and responsibilities of living in a rapidly changing, multicultural world.

Inclusion

All children are included and have access to all curricular and extra-curricular opportunities. The school recognises that parents have the right to withdraw their child from R.E lessons and arrangements will be made to accommodate this right should they so wish. The school will take the opportunity to liaise closely with parents who wish to exercise this right to ensure that the decision to do so is not based on any misunderstanding or misinterpretation of our aims and objectives.

<u>RE Overview</u>

	Autumn	Spring	Summer	
EYFS	EYFS 1 I am special	EYFS 6 Stories Jesus Told	EYFS 9 Special Places	41 hours
	Why are we all different and special?	Why did Jesus tell stories?	What makes a place holy?	
	4 hours Christianity 1 hour Islam	4 hours Christianity	3 hours Christianity	10 WF
			3 hours Hinduism and Islam	31 C
	EYFS 2 Harvest *	EYFS 10		
	Why do people of faith say thank you	Prayer	EYFS 11 Special Times	
	to God at harvest?	4 hours	How do you celebrate special times?	
	4 hours Christianity		3 hours Christianity	
		EYFS 7 Easter *	3 hours Hinduism and Islam	
	\$14 Diwali	Why do Christians believe that Easter is		
	Why do Hindus light candles at Diwali?	all about love?		
	3 hours Hinduism	5 hours Christianity		
	EYFS 4 Christmas * How do Christians celebrate Jesus's birthday? 4 hours Christianity			
Year 1	1.1 Harvest	1.4 Jesus	1.7 Baptism	36 hours
	How can we help those who do not	What made Jesus special?	Why is baptism special?	
	have a good Harvest?	5 hours Christianity	4 hours Christianity	10 WF
	2 hours Christianity	Could include Sikhism and Buddhism	,	28 C
	,	from EYFS 3 3Hours	How do people of world faiths	
	How do people of Jewish faith		welcome new babies?	
	celebrate the harvest?		4 hours Hinduism and Islam	
	3 hours Judaism	1.5 Easter *		
		What do you think is the most important	1.9 My World, Jesus' world.	
	1.2 Creation *	part of the Easter story?	How is the place where Jesus lived	
	What are your favourite things that	4 hours Christianity	different from how we live now?	
	God created?		4 hours Christianity, Judaism	
	3 hours Christianity			

	What do people of Muslim and Hindu faith believe about how God made the world? 3 hours Hinduism and Islam 1.3 Christmas * Why do we give and receive gifts? 4 hours Christianity			
Year 2	2.1 The Bible	2.3 Jesus *	2.5 The Church	39 hours
	Why is the Bible a special book?	Why did Jesus welcome everyone?	Why is the Church as special place	
	6 hours Christianity	6 hours Christianity	for Christians?	12 WF 32 C
	Do people of all world faiths have holy	2.4 Easter *	6 hours Christianity	32 C
	books?	How do symbols help us to understand	Why are holy buildings important to	
	6 hours Islam, Judaism	the Easter story?	people of faith?	
		5 hours Christianity	6 hours Hinduism, Islam	
	2.2 Christmas *			
	Why was the birth of Jesus such good			
	Why was the birth of Jesus such good news? 4 hours Christianity			

Collective Worship

Collective Worship at St. Andrew's C of E School provides a vital opportunity for both pupils and adults to encounter faith by engaging in conversations about God. It provides them with a rich experience and understanding of Christianity and offers them an encounter with Jesus Christ and with Christian faith and practice in a way that enhances their lives. Our Worship is truly welcoming, meeting the needs of all, wherever they may be on their journey of faith. It helps to enable all pupils and adults to flourish.

We have used the Church of England document 'Inclusive Invitational Inspiring' to guide us.

The aims of worship are:

- 1. To explore the school's vision and how that underpins shared values and virtues.
- 2. Help pupils and adults to appreciate the relevance of faith in today's world by encountering the teachings of Jesus and the Bible and developing understanding of the Christian belief in the trinitarian nature of God.
- 3. To offer the opportunity, without compulsion, to all pupils and adults to grow spiritually through experiences of prayer, stillness, worship and reflection.
- 4. To enable all pupils and adults to appreciate that Christians worship in different ways.
- 5. To enable pupils to develop skills through engaging in the planning, leading and evaluation of collective worship in ways that lead to improving practice.

Our worship is:

Inclusive – We understand that our pupils and staff are at different stages of their spiritual journey. They come from homes of different backgrounds as well as of no faith background. Worship involves gathering together to explore, think, question and respond. Pupils are involved in the planning, leading and evaluation of worship.

Invitational – All are welcome to engage in worship. Pupils and adults are invited to pray if they wish to do so and in their own way. Prayer is accompanied by the option to reflect. It allows all to be present and to engage with integrity.

Inspiring – It enables pupils and adults to ask big questions about who we are and why we do what we do. We aim to motivate pupils and adults to reflect on their own and the wider community's behaviour and actions. Our collective worship encourages our children to be courageous advocates.

Worship is planned and delivered by different members of our school community throughout the week. We also welcome additional visitors into our school to deliver and share worship with us.

Organisation of Collective Worship

We hold a daily act of collective worship. Both children and adults are invited to join in this special time to think about and reflect on Christian messages and values. This is either a whole school (4 times a week) or a class based worship (once a week) and is a special time of calm and reflection. We ask children to be quiet and thoughtful and to listen carefully and participate. We create this atmosphere by using music and lighting candles or using other objects that act as a focal point for the attention of the children. A range of media is used to enhance worship including video clips and pictures. There is time to listen, observe, participate, reflect, be still and be thankful. Children have opportunities to reflect on their understanding and prayer is a central part of worship.

Over the year worship is led by various people, usually following the format below:

Monday - Our worship is led by the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. Please see the Worship Overview for more detailed information.

Tuesday - We have time to worship in our classes. We use Picture News to explore big questions and learn about current significant events and issues in the wider world that help us to question, reflect and wonder.

Wednesday - Katy leads our Worship. Katy is the Children's Ministry Coordinator at St. Andrew's Church. Please see the Worship Overview for more detailed information.

Thursday - Teachers lead singing worship, linked to our half termly value.

Friday - Celebration worship - parents/carers are invited to attend this every week.

Our worship is underpinned by sound theological teaching and has a strong focus on God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit. We take the themes of our worship from the traditions of the Christian faith and we often reflect on the festivals and events of the Christian calendar. We also place a strong emphasis on our Christian Values: truthfulness, thankfulness, compassion, forgiveness, perseverance and friendship. These values underpin everything we do at St. Andrew's Church of England Infant School.

Our Friday Celebration Worship offers an opportunity to acknowledge and reward children for their achievements and successes both in and out of school. This worship plays an important part in promoting the ethos of our school, which is that all children are valued and all achievements are recognised. Each week, a 'star award' is awarded as well as a 'values' award which is presented to a child in each class who has displayed our core value for the half term.

Parents/carers are invited to join our worship every Friday, as this promotes the community spirit of the school and is a practical demonstration of the way the home and school work together to support the achievements of our children. Spiritual Leaders lead worship and all children are encouraged to take part. Governors are also welcome to attend. Newsletters also celebrate successes and encourage our school family to reflect and grow spiritually.

Right of withdrawal

Having chosen to be educated at a Church of England Aided Primary school, we would expect all children to attend worship. However, any parent can request permission for their child to be excused from attending religious worship and the school will make alternative arrangements for the supervision of the child during the period concerned. Parents do not have to explain or give reasons for this. This complies with the 1944 Education Act and was restated in the 1988 Education Reform Act. No child currently is withdrawn from any worship across the school.

Collective Worship Overview

This has been planned in discussion with St. Andrew's Church. We have looked at the Diocese Resource, 'God's Big Story' and linked stories from the Bible to our half termly values. We have chosen inspirational courageous advocates linked to each value and throughout the year we learn about significant events in the Christian calendar. We use the Lion Storyteller Bible.

Stories have been chosen depending on the length of the terms.

Term time	Autumn 1	Autumn 2	Spring 1	Spring 2	Summer 1	Summer 2
Christian	Truthfulness	Thankfulness	Compassion	Forgiveness	Perseverance	Friendship
Value			-			-
	The Two Houses	The Marvellous	Jesus Heals a	Jonah the	The Great	Ruth Finds a
	The parable of	Picnic	Blind Man John 9	Groaner	Escape	New Home
	the two builders	Feeding the Five		Jonah and the	The story of	Ruth 1-4
		Thousand		Whale	Exodus Exodus 7-	
	The Word of God	Matthew 14	A jar and a jug		17	Jesus's Special
	The Ten		Elijah and the	The Runaway		Friends
	Commandments		widow 1 Kings 17	The story of	A Long Journey	Jesus and His
		Elijah and the	_	Jacob and	Moses Leads his	First Disciples
	Turn Back to God	Raven		Laban Genesis	people through	Luke 5
	and finding the	Elijah in hiding 1	The Helpful	28-29, 31	the wilderness	
	truth	Kings1 6-17	Servant The story		Exodus 16-40	
	The Preaching of		of Naaman 2	The Big Spender		Tabitha Wakes
	John the Baptist -		Kings 5	The Parable of	Down the Well	Up
	Mark 1:1-8	The Good		the lost son Luke	The story of	Peter Heals a
		Shepherd		15	Jeramiah	Good Women
	Samon and	The Parable of	The Kind stranger		Jeramiah 38	Acts 9
	Delilah	the Lost Sheep	The Good			
	A story of	Mathew 18, Luke	Samaritan Luke	The Unforgiving	The Lost Coin	God's Friend
	betrayal Judges	15	10	Servant	The parable of	The Call of
	16			Jesus' story about	the lost coin Luke	Abraham
		The man who		forgiveness	15	Genesis 12, 17-
	The Bad Brothers	came back		Mathew 18		18,21

	The story of Jacob and Esau Genesis 27	Jesus heals ten men Luke 17 Spies in Canaan		Joseph Joseph the Dreamers		
	Esther was a Star	Entering the		Joseph the		
	A Jewish girl	Promised Land		Prisoner		
	saves her people	Numbers 13-14		Joseph the Ruler		
	Esther 2-9	Deuteronomy 1				
		Christmas		Easter		
	The Pharisee and	The First		 The Great 		
	the Tax Collector	Christmas		Parade		
	Jesus speaks	Luke 1-2		• An		
	about prayer			important		
	Luke 18			Meal The		
				last supper		
				and a		
				betrayal		
				A Dreadful		
				Day		
				 A Happy 		
				day Church Children's M		
Loco				orship supported by N	·	ure News
Inspirational	David	Selina Juul	Malala Yousafzai	Corrie Ten Boon	Derek Redmond	Thomas
Courageous	Attenborough	Food Waste	Educational	Forgiving Christian	Olympic Sprinter	Barnardo
Advocates	Biologist and	Campaigner	Activist			Charity Founder
	natural historian.	Carol and Paddy Henderson				

			Food banks						
Christian Focus	Harvest		Advent starts 1 st December		-	h 5 th March- April	Pentecost June	· 8 th	
(these dates change annually)			The Birth of Jesus		East Apri	er 18 th -21 st			
Special Events	Remembro Day	ance	S2 - The Lord's Prayer			Easter around world	Service Do	ay	S5 - Christian Art
	St. Andrew	's Day							
Monday		Tuesdo	ıy	Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
Whole Schoo	l Worship	Class V	Vorship	Whole School Wo	rship	Whole Schoo	l Worship		school ration worship
God's Big Sto a school valu			and Local Issues ound and Picture	Bible Overview		Songs, psalm prayer	s and		rating our vements

Resources to Support Collective Worship				
Gods' Big story Lions Bible Understanding Christianity	Gods' Story video clips Stories of the Bible Video Clips Newsround Picture News Scheme			

St Andrew's Infant School

Collective Worship Bible Overview by St Andrew's Church, Leyland

This has been planned in discussion with the school, using their plan for Collective Worship throughout the year and by looking at the Diocese Resource, 'God's Big Story'.

Stories/Teaching will be chosen depending on the length of the terms.

<u>Autumn Term</u> Bible Overview Old Testament and the Promised Rescuer Arrives	<u>Spring Term</u> Bible Overview The Life of Jesus - People Jesus Met and Stories Jesus Told	<u>Summer Term</u> Bible Overview After Jesus Rose / The Holy Spirit Comes / The Early Church /To Us Today
Getting To Know One Another New school year; new class; teacher; who am I?; Psalm 139 – God knows all about uswe get to know about who God is through his Word, the Bible. Book – God Knows All About Me	Simeon and Anna – Promises (New Year)	Jesus appears to many people On the Road to Emmaus (Lion Storyteller Bible) Goodbye at Last (Lion Storyteller Bible) Going home – The Jesus Storybook Bible The Ascension / The Great Commission
The Bible – What is it? = Like a library; a torch; God's love letter to us etc. The Story and the Song – The Jesus Storybook Bible	The Wise Men The Wise Men's Visit (Lion Storyteller Bible) The King of all kings - The Jesus Storybook Bible	Pentecost The Helper Arrives (Lion Storyteller Bible) God sends help – The Jesus Storybook Bible Peter at Pentecost Book – The Friend who Forgives (Good Book Company)

Bible Overview/God's Big Story - Creation. Genesis 1 and 2 – In the Beginning The Story of Creation (Lion Storyteller Bible) The beginning: a perfect home – The Jesus Storybook Bible	Jesus as a Boy The Boy in the Temple (Lion Storyteller Bible)	The First Church (Acts 2v42-47) God's Big Promises Bible Storybook
The Fall , Genesis 3 Sad Day (Lion Storyteller Bible) The Terrible Lie – The Jesus Storybook Bible	Jesus' Baptism Jesus is Baptised (Lion Storyteller Bible) Heaven breaks through - The Jesus Storybook Bible	Peter and John heal a lame man The Beautiful Gate (Lion Storyteller Bible)
Noah, Genesis 6-9 Special Promise (Lion Storyteller Bible) A new beginning – The Jesus Storybook Bible	The Calling of the First DisciplesFishermen – Simon and Andrew, Jamesand John and Levi, the Tax Collector –From the Bible – ICB versionLet's go - The Jesus Storybook Bible	Paul's Conversion On the Road to Damascus (Lion Storyteller Bible) A new way to see – The Jesus Storybook Bible
		Paul and his Missionary Journeys Paul is Shipwrecked (Lion Storyteller Bible) Book - The Prisoners, the Earthquake, and the Midnight Song (Good Book Company)
		Paul's Letters – God's Big Promises Bible Storybook
		More Letters - God's Big Promises Bible Storybook
Abraham God's 3 Promises to Abraham	Turning Water into Wine – Jesus' First Miracle	John's Vision / What Heaven is Like / The New Creation – Do you want to be there? - Revelation 21

Son of Laughter – The Jesus Storybook Bible The Present - The Jesus Storybook Bible		A dream of heaven – The Jesus Storybook Bible Book - The Awesome Super Fantastic Forever Party The Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids – Are you ready for Jesus?
Moses The Secret Baby (Lion Storyteller Bible) Moses the man, the burning bush and leading God's Special People, the Israelites The Burning Bush (Lion Storyteller Bible) God to the Rescue - The Jesus Storybook Bible God makes a way - The Jesus Storybook Bible	The Calming of the Storm – Jesus has power over nature Book - The Storm that Stopped Book The Storm on the Lake (Lion Storyteller Bible) The Captain of the storm – The Jesus Storybook Bible	 BOOKS God's Very Good Idea The Big Wide Welcome 'Say What?' 'WOW' Any Time, Any Place, Any Prayer How to Pray - The Jesus Storybook Bible (Matthew 6) Are you Following Jesus? Book – Would you like to know Jesus? Don't Worry - The singer - The Jesus Storybook Bible Jesus doesn't change Moving On / Leavers Assembly
David Samuel The Shepherd King	Mary and Martha – The Two Sisters (Lion Storyteller Bible)	

Samuel the Kingmaker (Lion Storyteller Bible) The teeny, weenietrue king - The Jesus Storybook Bible David the Giant Killer (Lion Storyteller Bible) The young hero and the horrible giant - The Jesus Storybook Bible The Good Shepherd - The Jesus Storybook Bible		
King Solomon The Wise King (Lion Storyteller Bible)	Zacchaeus The man who didn't have any friends – The Jesus Storybook Bible	
Prophets – Isaiah Operation "No More Tears!" - The Jesus Storybook Bible Get ready! - The Jesus Storybook Bible	The Samaritan Woman at the Well	
Advent (Liaise with school)	The Healing of the Paralysed Man – Jesus has power to forgive sins and over sickness Down Through The Roof (Lion Storyteller Bible)	
Jesus is here – Christmas (Liaise with school) He's Here! - The Jesus Storybook Bible The Light of the Whole World - The Jesus Storybook Bible <u>BOOK -</u> The Christmas Promise	The Raising of Jairus' Daughter – Jesus has power over death Time To Get Up (Lion Storyteller Bible) A little girl and a poor frail lady - The Jesus Storybook Bible	

The Parable of the Great Feast The Big Party (Lion Storyteller Bible)	
Lent (Liaise with school so we don't duplicate.)	
Holy Week and Easter (Liaise with school)	
The Servant King – The Jesus Storybook Bible A dark night in the garden – The Jesus Storybook Bible The sun stops shining – The Jesus Storybook Bible God's wonderful surprise – The Jesus Storybook Bible	
Book - The Garden, the Curtain and the Cross	
Videos	

Where a couple of Bible stories may overlap, these will happen at different times of the year and will be taken from different resources – one will have a Bible Overview focus and the other will link to the Christian Value for the Half Term.





*Classes also have their own prayer that they have created together. In addition to these, we read the Lord's Prayer, have opportunities for spontaneous prayer and children also select their own prayers that they may read out if they wish to. Spiritual leaders lead prayer.

Spirituality

<u>Intent</u>

All spiritual development, at St. Andrew's CE Infant School, takes place within the context of the Christian faith. As a church school, we offer opportunities for all our school community to develop a relationship with God. Our environment allows everyone to feel accepted, to question and to explore. In order to nurture the spiritual development of children space, time, emotional security, and a sense of safety and trust is needed.

Spirituality does not fit neatly into RE lessons or Collective Worship nor should it be limited to "the odd special moment" Rebecca Nye. All staff are expected to, and are capable of, planning for developing children's spirituality and ensuring that as opportunities do arrive, they are used to help children develop.

What is Spirituality?

At St. Andrew's CE Infant School, we believe that we can develop our spirituality by taking time to reflect, show appreciation and be in the moment. Spirituality is a thread throughout our curriculum, including magical moments of awe and wonder. It is something that teaches us about questioning, understanding and relationships: relationships with ourselves, others, the world and beyond. Spirituality nourishes both ourselves and those around us, helping us to feel content, calm and clear headed.

The Church of England's Vision for Education states a core desire that children will experience life in all its fullness (John 10:10). At St. Andrew's we believe that exploring spirituality by educating the whole child and providing full life experiences meets this desire. Spirituality is a reflective journey and includes appreciating the beauty of the world around us. It enables our children to be happy; flourish and succeed and live life in all its fullness.

We have planned opportunities throughout the curriculum to develop spirituality amongst our children. For example, children use their senses and take time to reflect and appreciate our world when we visit Worden Park. Activities such as breathing exercises, reflection and discussion time are also built into our curriculum as well as varied opportunities for children to question and wonder.

As well as these planned opportunities, we recognise the importance of spontaneous moments that cannot always be planned for. We celebrate and record these throughout the year.

Christian Value	How this is lived out?
Truthfulness	As children develop their spirituality, they learn the importance of telling the truth. Jesus said 'Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice' (John 18:37). We think about what Jesus would do.
Thankfulness	As the children journey through spirituality with thankfulness in their hearts, they will have a quality of life that is about appreciating and cherishing what is good, joyful, truthful and beautiful.
Compassion	As we develop our spirituality, it is important to show compassion to both ourselves and others.
Forgiveness	The children learn how important forgiveness is. Taking time to reflect helps us to think about this, and allows us to work as a school team.
Perseverance	Developing spiritually is a journey where we become more aware. This is a developing process and there may be times when big questions make us wonder about our own ideas or beliefs. Throughout this process, perseverance is required.
Friendship	Establishing strong relationships amongst staff, children, families and the whole community will ensure that we have an environment for all to develop spiritually in their own way.

What does Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development look like?

Spiritual: the growth of the spirit, understanding strengths and weaknesses, self-respect, creativity, the will to achieve one's own potential and the ability to ask and try to find out answers to life's major questions in order to foster non-material well-being throughout life.

Moral: the development of understanding of the difference between right and wrong, understanding of moral dilemmas, the will to do that which is right, a willingness to consider others with concern and the ability to cope with moral conflict.

Social: the development of understanding of the responsibilities and rights of being members of families and various communities (local, national and international) and the ability to relate to and work with others for the common good.

Cultural: the development of understanding of how people of different cultures think, feel, create, behave and live. Its aim is to develop pupils' sense of belonging within, value for and engagement with local, regional and national cultures.

Provision for Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development

Spiritual

Children are given opportunities to reflect upon the meaning of spiritual experiences. Examples of experiences commonly regarded as spiritual include:

- Curiosity and questions
- Awe and wonder
- Connection and belonging
- Prayer and worship
- A sense of security, well-being, worth and purposefulness

Our school supports children's spiritual development by:

• Giving children the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they affect peoples' lives.

• Giving children the opportunity to understand human feelings and emotions.

• Developing a climate or ethos within which all children can grow and flourish, enjoying individual liberty and mutual respect.

• Accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals, including those who have different faiths and beliefs.

• Planning for and promoting learning opportunities, which value children's questions, encourage deeper thinking and give space for individual thoughts, ideas and concerns.

• Planning for opportunities to develop children's spirituality across the curriculum.

Moral

Children are encouraged to understand the need for a common code based on treating others as they would wish to be treated and the school's Core Christian values of truthfulness, thankfulness, compassion, forgiveness, perseverance and friendship.

Our school supports children's moral development by:

• Providing clear school expectations (be kind, be honest, do your best) as a basis for behaviour which is promoted consistently throughout school.

• Promoting equity

• Giving pupils opportunities across the curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values –for example, personal rights and responsibilities, truth, justice and the importance of equity.

• Developing an open and safe learning environment in which pupils can express their views.

• Rewarding good behaviour.

• Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions, for example, respect for property, care of the environment, and expectations of behaviour.

Social

This enables pupils to become conscientious participants in their family, class, and school, the local and wider community and make a positive contribution to the lives of others in society.

Our school develops pupil social development by:

- Fostering a sense of community, with common, inclusive values.
- Promoting equity
- Encouraging pupils to work co-operatively.
- Encouraging pupils to recognise and respect social differences and similarities.

• Helping pupils develop personal qualities, which are valued in a civilised society, for example, thoughtfulness, honesty, and respect for difference, moral principles, independence, interdependence, self-respect and awareness of others' needs.

• Providing opportunities for pupils to exercise leadership and responsibility.

Cultural

At the heart of cultural development lies the necessity to develop a sense of personal identity, whilst at the same time acquiring awareness, understanding and respect regarding the cultural traditions and beliefs of others.

Our school develops cultural development by:

- Extending pupils' knowledge and use of cultural imagery and language.
- Encouraging them to think about special events in life and how they are celebrated.

• Recognising and nurturing particular gifts and talents; providing opportunities for pupils to participate in literature, drama, music, art, crafts and other cultural events and encouraging pupils to reflect on their significance.

• Reinforcing the school's cultural links through displays, posters, exhibitions, etc.

• Developing partnerships with outside agencies and individuals to extend pupils' cultural awareness, for example museum visits.

	Questions to develop spirituality across the curriculum		
	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Autumn	Who makes you go woooooooow? Do trees talk to each other? What makes me me and you you? Who is God? Do you need friends and are they important?	Is life more real outside? Can you touch the wind? Is a gift always something that you can hold? Who made words? Can we ever really forgive and forget?	Should we thank our parents for being who we are? Is it everyone's responsibility to look after the environment? If I switch the light off is the wall a different colour? What could you do to make a difference? (like Mary Jones) What makes a good friend?
Spring	Why do I like some food and not others? Why do I cry when I'm happy? Why do I have a bath in water not baked beans? What's the point in reading? Why do humans talk and not roar?	What is nothing made out of? Where do we go when we die? How are you healthy? Why do we have numbers? Can anything be a toy?	Should we visit different planets? Can we have happiness without sadness? Should foods high in sugar and fats be banned? If you could spend a day with Jesus, what would you do? Is the internet better than a library?
Summer	Who do you love and what are you going to do about it? Is it better to be cold or hungry? Why do I have to grow old? What are you afraid of? What is your 1 wish for the world?	Do animals have feelings? All animals? All feelings? Does a dog know it is a dog? Do computers think? Are heroes ever scared? What is more important being right or being nice?	What life lesson did you learn the hard way? Would you prefer to live in Leyland or Mugurameno? Is change a good thing? Where is the best place to worship God? What makes a good piece of art?

Courageous Advocacy



'Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy.' (Proverbs 31: 8-9)



Courageous advocacy is defined by the Church of England as "**the act of speaking** out against an issue of injustice, often on behalf of those whose voice is not heard." At St Andrew's we encourage and support our children to become courageous advocates who believe that they can become 'agents of change' to strive towards a fairer and more joyous world. This means that they champion causes that are special and meaningful to them; connected to matters and concerns personal and close to home for them or linked to wider global issues. Our children develop an excellent grasp of what it means to belong to a local and global community and understand the responsibility that comes with this.

St Andrew's Infant School is a Christian school where children are happy, nurtured and love learning. Through an inspiring and aspirational curriculum, we strive to ensure our children flourish spiritually, academically, and creatively to become confident, resilient learners. Everyone here learns, cares and grows together in faith.

All acts of courageous advocacy at St. Andrew's are driven by our school's Christian vision. Children act together with a purpose that people may live happily together in unity. As courageous advocates, our children are actively living out our vision. Trusting in God is at the heart of all actions and decision making by children and adults. As courageous advocates, the children demonstrate all of our school values. The children know that is important to help others and we teach this in many ways; through our termly values, our teaching of the Bible, through learning about world faiths and world views including inspirational people that have showed courageous advocacy through their actions.

Jesus spoke up for people who were disadvantaged, disempowered and ignored by their communities. Children are encouraged to reflect on Jesus' actions and teachings to inform their own values, judgements and courageous choices. Other learning experiences, including PSHRE lessons enable children to grow in character and independence, develop their sense of respect and justice, and grow in courage "to speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves" (Proverbs 31:8).

Learning about the life of Jesus, we are inspired to follow His example. Learning about God's vision for the world, children reflect on the message of the Bible in the context of their own character and actions.



