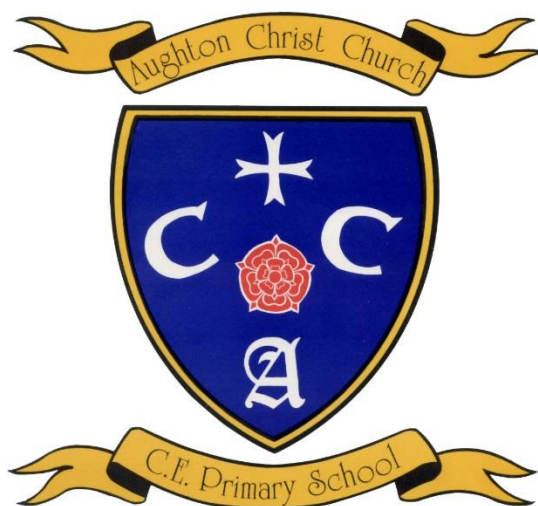


Policy Document

Aughton Christ Church C of E
Primary School

Spiritual and Moral Development Policy



Reviewed: January 2025
Next Review date: January 2026



Spiritual and Moral Development Policy.

Spiritual development is fundamental to the human condition and at Christ Church School it is seen as a cornerstone to our school ethos.

It is :

- To do with relationships with other people and, for believers, God
- To do with the search for individual identity and with our responses to challenging experiences e.g. death, suffering, beauty, good and evil
- To do with searching for meanings and purpose in life and for values by which we live.

In Christ Church School we see Spiritual Development to include Beliefs

- The development of personal beliefs including religious beliefs, and an appreciation that people have individual and shared beliefs on which they base their lives
- A sense of awe and wonder being inspired by the natural world, mystery and human achievement
- A search for the meaning purpose and beginning to ask the question “why me” in times of hardship and suffering.
- Developing self-knowledge, gaining an awareness of oneself in terms of thoughts, feelings and emotions, responsibilities and experiences and the development of self respect.

RELATIONSHIPS

- A sense of recognising and valuing the worth of each individual, developing a sense of community and the ability to build up relationships with others.

CREATIVITY

- Expressing thoughts and feelings through e.g. art, music and literature

FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS

- A sense of being moved by beauty and kindness, hurt by injustice or aggression, a growing awareness of when it is important to control emotions and feelings.

During their time at Christ Church children will :

- Recognise the existence of others as independent from oneself
- Become aware of and reflect on experiences
- Question and explore the meanings of experiences
- Understand and evaluate a range of possible answers and interpretations
- Develop personal views

Moral Development Policy

In Christ Church School we expect our school community to:

- Tell the truth
- Keep promises
- Respect the rights and property of others
- Act considerately towards each other
- Help those less fortunate and weaker than ourselves
- Take personal responsibility for one's own actions
- Have self discipline

At Christ Church we will not accept

- Bullying
- Cheating
- Deceit
- Cruelty
- Irresponsibility
- Dishonesty

Our children should develop knowledge as to which things are acceptable and which are not. Adult members of our school set boundaries and establish a value system which provides help and support to enable our children to begin to make their own judgements.

We hope that by school, parents and the community working together in the partnership we will help to furnish pupils with the knowledge and ability to question and reason, which will enable them to develop their own value system and to make responsible decisions.

School should hopefully build on the child's experiences at home. We insist that children understand and follow our school Behaviour Policy as outlined in our school prospectus.

We hope that most families will sign and work towards keeping the ideals as set out in the Home/School Contract.

We aim to promote spiritual and moral development in our children by:

- Treating with sensitivity the views of people who express their spirituality in terms of different religions as well as those who have a strong religious faith.
- Giving opportunities to enable children to encounter questions about the original of the Universe, the purpose of life, nature of proof and the uniqueness of humanity and the meaning of truth.
- Ensuring that all children receive Religious Education which promotes spiritual and Moral development in the light of teaching of other world religions besides Christianity (we do respect the right of parents to withdraw their children from those aspects of the R.E. Syllabus that they might find unacceptable).

Our main religion is in line with our Trust Deed i.e. Christianity within the Anglican Tradition.

We will provide opportunities for pupils to:

- Discuss matters of personal concern
- Develop relationships with adults and peers
- Develop a sense of belonging to the community
- Be challenged by exploring the beliefs and values of others while deepening their knowledge and understanding of their own faith or beliefs
- Discuss religious matters
- Understand how people reach certain decisions on spiritual and moral decisions and understand how these decisions affect their own lives
- Experience what is aesthetically challenging
- Experience silence and reflection

Collective Worship

During our daily act of Collective Worship we offer opportunities for children to :

- Explore and share their beliefs and consider the importance of prayer, meditation and silence
- Consider the relevance of ideas and beliefs to their own lives
- Think about the needs of others
- Develop a sense of community
- Appreciate the importance of our own belief
- Celebrate the achievement of all members of our school community.