

Stickland's CE VA Primary School

Spirituality Policy 2020

Adopted date:	3-2-2020
Signature of Headteacher:	<i>Kemclann</i>
Signature of Governing Body	<i>Nichol Campbell</i>
Next review date:	February 2023

General Principle

At Stickland's Primary School the spiritual, moral and cultural dimension of life is expressed throughout the school and additionally as a church school through the Christian faith and through recognition of individuals' spiritual nature. Pupils' individual spiritual development is fostered throughout the curriculum and Religious Education and Collective Worship have a major contribution to this area of experience.

What is Spirituality?

At Stickland's Primary School, spirituality is defined as;

A relationship between themselves (self), others, God (transcendence / beyond) and nature and the environment (beauty).

These form the basis of our work with the children at our school. The School community acknowledge the need to develop our own spirituality for our personal wellbeing, and so that we can grow together, supporting our children and each other.

Self

- Our own feelings; ability to reflect and express
- Awareness of our uniqueness; 'I am special'-
 - happiness with who we are or the possibility of positive change
 - being **resilient**
- Gratefulness for the things we have and the person we are
- **Curiosity** and discovery of our own faith
- Development of imagination and creativity

Others

- Empathy and understanding; respect, tolerance, openness
- To love and be loved (loving your neighbour) **Working together**
- Making a difference; duty

Transcendence (Beyond)

- Encountering/experiencing God (having a sense of what lies beyond the material/physical) Curiosity
- Ability to think and ask the 'Big Questions' (eg about life, death, suffering, nature of God). **Communicate** these to others, **take risks** to ask challenging questions that sometimes can't be answered
- Opportunities for prayer, stillness, connecting with God- **connections** with God • Making sense of the world

Beauty

- Developing a sense of awe and wonder
- Enjoying the miracles of everyday life
- Taking time for what really matters, planning for these moments
- Appreciating beauty in art, music, nature, be open to **change**

Spiritual capacities and experiences

All children grow and learn in their own unique way. We foster their spiritual growth through a broad and balanced curriculum as well as through worship times and extra-curricular activities. We want all children to access spiritual experiences, whether of Christian faith, a different faith or none. Many of these are accessed through our curriculum provision, as well as through off site visits and visitors to the school. Explicit opportunities such as attending church or worship are planned and take place with the pupils. Parents and carers are partners in our provision. Pupils of different faiths are welcomed. Other faiths explored respectfully as part of our spiritual provision.

Spiritual responses

We allow our pupils to reflect daily as part of our collective worship opportunities. These are personal reflections, prayer and shared ideas.

How do we provide spiritual opportunities?

- Regular worship times – 15 minutes daily, using Bible stories
- Church services termly
- Visiting speakers and worship times- Open the Book, visiting clergy
- Quiet times, reflection in class
- Big questions, often explored in RE
- Visitors representing the community and charity work- for example, disability groups, charity days, opportunities to impact on our communities
- Music and prayer
- Art and design
- Outdoor learning
- Regular opportunities to share feelings and talk openly, 'I wish my teacher knew' box, ELSA work, nurture groups
- Our RE curriculum is inspiring and challenging

How can we measure the impact?

Our pupils' behaviour reflects the impact of our provision. They care about each other, showing kindness, empathy, compassion and a desire to do what is right, working harmoniously in our school community. They trust the adults around them and feel trusted to lead around the school. They show imagination and excitement about their learning and a curiosity to explore.

Assessment

Spirituality is not assessed as we believe this to be a highly personal part of a child's holistic development. We do, however, encourage the children to talk about their thoughts and feelings including expressing them creatively e.g. through artwork, poetry, reflective writing etc. We believe this is a thoughtful and respectful approach.