



# St. Michael's CE Primary School



## Our five core Christian values

*Trust, Honesty, Compassion, Respect and Kindness*

are centred on **'Do to others as you would like them to do to you.'** (Luke 6:13)

Through these values we inspire children to be the best they can be. Encouraging high aspirations and expectations that will allow them to achieve, explore, succeed and prepare for their own path through life.

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## Spirituality Policy

### 'Do to others as you would have them do to you'

#### Our Vision

*"Do to others as you would have them do to you."*

(Luke 6:31)

This vision underpins everything we do at St Michael's. It shapes our relationships, our learning, and our approach to life. We aim to create a community where every individual is valued and nurtured to flourish in **mind, body, and spirit**.

#### Our Values

- **Respect** – valuing ourselves, others, and the world around us.
- **Kindness** – showing care and empathy in all we do.
- **Honesty** – being truthful and trustworthy.
- **Compassion** – understanding and supporting others.
- **Trust** – building strong, positive relationships.

These values guide our daily interactions and decisions, helping us live out our vision in practical ways.

#### Our Logo – The Ammonite

The ammonite represents **growth, resilience, and the unfolding journey of life**. Its spiral shape reminds us that spiritual development is a continuous process, with each turn offering new opportunities for reflection, learning, and wonder. Just as the ammonite is rooted in our local heritage, our spiritual journey is rooted in our Christian foundation while embracing inclusivity for all.

## **Our Approach to Spirituality**

As part of the **DSAT Academy Trust**, we follow the principles of the DSAT Spirituality Framework. Spirituality is not a separate subject but an integral part of school life, influencing all areas of learning and personal development.

We believe spirituality is about:

- Exploring life's big questions.
- Developing a sense of meaning and purpose.
- Becoming more aware of our own innate spirituality.

This journey is lifelong and unique for every individual.

## **Our Christian Foundation**

Our approach is rooted in the belief that every person is a valued creation of God, uniquely made and loved. While our vision and ethos are Christian, we are inclusive and respectful of those of other faiths or none.

## **What Spiritual Development Looks Like**

Pupils' spiritual development is shown by their:

- Beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform their perspective on life and respect for others.
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others, and the world—including the intangible.
- Use of imagination and creativity in learning.
- Willingness to reflect on experiences and ask life's big questions.

## **Our Spirituality Curriculum Driver**

We nurture children so they can pause, reflect, and find stillness. Our children will:

- Take delight in the world around them.
- Be open to what lies beyond the material, which may manifest in faith.
- Celebrate differences and learn from them.
- Ask big questions about life and seek thoughtful answers.

## **Windows, Mirrors, and Doors**

We use the **Windows, Mirrors, and Doors** approach to plan acts of worship and spiritual opportunities:

- **Windows** – Looking outward to wonder at the world: the “Wow” and “Ow” moments.
- **Mirrors** – Looking inward to reflect on experiences and big questions.
- **Doors** – Responding creatively and practically, living out our Christian values and making a difference.

## Four Elements of Spiritual Development

- **Self** – Awareness of feelings, gratitude, imagination, and personal faith.
- **Others** – Empathy, respect, and loving relationships.
- **World** – Awe and wonder, appreciation of beauty, and taking time for what matters.
- **Beyond** – Encountering God, asking big questions, and opportunities for prayer.

## Opportunities for Spiritual Growth

Children will:

- Have regular times for quiet and reflection.
- Experience creativity and imagination in learning.
- Engage in prayer and thankfulness.
- Explore and express feelings in a safe environment.
- See positive relationships role-modelled.
- Appreciate beauty in nature, art, and music.
- Reflect on mistakes and learn forgiveness.
- Explore big questions through RE and across the curriculum.

## Spirituality Across School Life

- **Collective Worship** – central to our community, offering time for reflection, prayer, and celebration of Christian festivals, as well as awareness of other faith traditions.
- **Religious Education (RE)** – guided by the Church of England's Statement of Entitlement and the Locally Agreed Syllabus, using resources such as *Understanding Christianity* and the *Emmanuel Project*.
- **Curriculum and Beyond** – spirituality is woven through all subjects and extra-curricular activities. We create opportunities for awe and wonder, reflection, and discussion about meaning and purpose.

Themes such as stewardship, inclusivity, and citizenship are embedded in our curriculum, supporting spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development.

## Monitoring

The impact of this policy will be monitored by the Headteacher and Governors through:

- Learning walks.
- Pupil voice and feedback.
- Staff discussions and curriculum reviews.

## The Ammonite Connection

Our ammonite logo reminds us that spiritual development is a journey; spiralling outward as we grow in understanding, compassion, and faith. Just as the ammonite reflects resilience and beauty, we aim to nurture these qualities in every child.