



## Castor Church of England Primary School

### Spirituality Policy

#### Introduction

At Castor C of E School, all aspects of school life reflect a Christian ethos and this policy is based on our Christian vision which is 'Let Your Light Shine'. We aim for all children to work together in ways that allow them to let their light shine, which includes their spiritual development.

#### What is it?

At Castor C of E Primary School we believe that it is very important to provide all children with a range of opportunities to help them develop spiritually. We believe that spiritual development may not be synonymous with Religious Education and Collective Worship and can be explored through many different curriculum areas.

As a school we focus on our six core values which aim to demonstrate a sense of spirituality. Our values are: forgiveness, kindness, honesty, trust, respect and friendship. Our starting point is our vision, 'Let Your Light Shine' where we allow each individual to shine in their own unique ways with behaviour, words and actions that demonstrate of the six values, whether that be in the classroom, on trips outside of school, when visitors are welcomed into the school or with any other extra-curricular activities, all of which are shown in our culture capital experiences.

#### Why is it important?

Christians believe that God became human and therefore always strive to be the best human they can possibly be. Our quote from Matthew 6:15, 'Let Your Light Shine' encourages us as educators and in accordance with the Equalities Act 2010, to help every child to be the best that they can be. We encourage each child never to 'hide their light under a bushel'. We have a duty to support the children to achieve this; part of this responsibility is to help children develop spiritually. At Castor C of E School all aspects of school life reflect a Christian ethos and all policies are based on Christian principles.

#### What do we aim to achieve for the children?

The children become increasingly aware of the concept of self- the inner person and the way that this shapes an individual's perception of themselves as a unique human being. The children reflect on the relationship they have with their sense of being a unique person. This is accomplished with our collective worships, whole school celebrations, our PSHE and SRE curriculum and our personal development plan.

The children become increasingly aware of the concept of others – a growing empathy, concern and compassion of how to treat others. The children reflect on how their values and principles affect their relationships with others.

The children become increasingly aware of the concept of a physical and creative world – a growing relationship with beauty through the ability to respond emotionally to experiences of the wonder of the natural world and the results of human creativity. The children explore their understanding of beauty and the affect this has on their perception of and relationship with the world.

The children become increasingly aware of the concept of the beyond – a growing relationship with the transcendental and the ability to explore experiences beyond the everyday. The children search for meaning in their very existence and their place in the greater scheme of things.

The children develop an understanding of the beliefs and values of Christianity and other world religions. The children are respectful of the beliefs and values of others.

The children develop an understanding of the ethos of a Church school and the content, language and symbolism of the Christian faith as a way of understanding our meaning and purpose in life.

The children develop the ability to question.

The children develop their ability to express their thoughts, ideas, feelings and their beliefs.

The children develop an understanding of how our school's vision and values are closely linked, and in many ways intertwined with the five British values. Displays throughout the school serve as a reminder of how we hope they will want to behave with each other as well as with others who they meet outside of Castor.

### How do we do it?

We provide and plan for a wide range of opportunities for children to develop spiritually in all areas of the curriculum. In particular through Religious Education, English, Maths, P.S.H.E., Science, Humanities, Art and Music.

We provide and plan for a wide range of opportunities for children to develop spiritually through Worship including: whole school, church-led worships and class services.

We also promote spiritual development opportunities through our wider curriculum, for example: during our themed weeks such as 'Green Week'; 'Say no to Bullying Week'; 'Cultural Week', 'Sports Week' and through other extra-curricular activities such as the school drama productions.

We provide areas for quiet reflection in school and in the outdoor environment with the creation of 'The Hive' and by giving each child a bee to put into our 'Bee Box' if they feel they need to seek advice or support.

We provide opportunities for prayer and encourage children to write their own that they can share with their class or the whole school. They are also encouraged to say these prayers aloud at the end of collective worships to instil and promote a sense of pupil voice.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

RE Policy

Equalities Policy