



# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School

## Policy for Spiritual Development

Date: November 2023

Mission
Together we love, learn, follow Jesus
Vision
At St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, through an open and generous heart, we learn together as a family in faith, following the gospel values of love.
Values
Hope Thankfulness Collaboration Compassion Friendship Resilience Empathy Creativity Justice Respect

At St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School our children receive a Catholic Education based on the gospel values of love, faith and friendship. It is our hope that the children in our care will develop

- Religious beliefs, values, principles and attitudes.
- An ability to recognise, understand and reflect on feelings emotions.
- An understanding of how be guided by their beliefs, values, principles and attitudes.

### Aims

We aim to:

- develop personal and religious beliefs as well as an understanding of how personal identity can be nurtured.
- nurture a love of Christ and to teach the children to put into practice the Gospel values of love, faith, friendship, honesty, patience, tolerance and forgiveness and in doing so, encourage them to develop as caring, happy Christians.
- give all of our children the opportunities to develop a sense of awe and wonder about the natural world and about human development and discoveries.
- encourage the children to be self-aware and respectful of others; to show concern, empathy and compassion for others.
- encourage them to understand the Catholic faith by learning from Bible stories, taking an active part in Mass, taking part in the Sacramental Programme and preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist, gathering on a daily basis for prayers, reflecting during Collective Worship and singing hymns and songs of celebration.
- teach the children to value their friendships, the school and parish community, and be equipped to deal with the joys and demands of such relationships.
- encourage our children to express themselves through creative development and be encouraged to reflect and learn from this reflection.
- to provide the children with positive experiences from which they can learn to be good, Christian individuals.

### Objectives

We will:

- develop an understanding of feelings and emotions, which enables all our children to reflect and to learn, at their own level and in their own time.
- give space, time and opportunity to reflect on these new ways of thinking during Collective Worship.



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## Methods

- The approach to spiritual development will be cross curricular, with “Come and See” at its core.
- The curriculum will be broad, balanced, creative and culturally diverse, in order to provide the children with a range of opportunities and experiences to develop their own spirituality and develop an understanding and respect for other religions and belief systems
- The children will explore their feelings, thoughts and attitudes in a quiet and prayerful atmosphere.
- The reward system in school will reflect our ethos and positively encourage children to foster high standards of empathy, politeness, honesty and responsibility, developing self-discipline and respect for self and others.
- All other school policies and procedures will support the spiritual development of all our children.