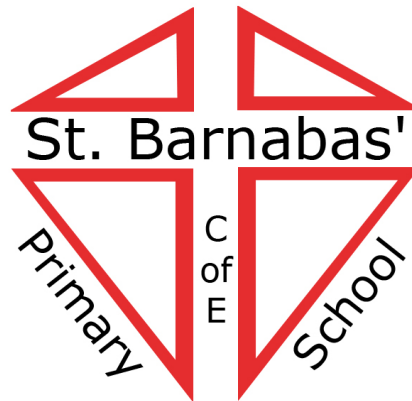


Heaton St. Barnabas' CE (VA) Primary School

Policy For



Spirituality

This policy was approved by Curriculum Committee

On: 15th January 2019

Signed.....

Position: Chair of Curriculum Committee

This policy will be reviewed in Spring 2021

Heaton St.Barnabas' CE Primary School

Policy on Spiritual Development

Mission Statement

Our school is an exciting, fun and friendly place where everyone is safe, valued and encouraged to be world class learners, developing confidence and a thirst for knowledge, trusting in God and realising our talents to create our future'

School Values

Happiness

Enthusiasm

Responsibility

Honesty

Respect

Kindness

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is a process of growth. God comes to meet us through people, places and events, and it is the individual's response to these encounters with God that shape and determine our spiritual nature.

An important part of this development is becoming aware of and reflecting on experiences, and interpreting them in a way that allows self- knowledge, personal views and insights to grow, and applying past experiences to life. This whole area of community and the fostering of good relationships are vital for understanding spirituality in a school.

Aims and Purpose

It is important to state that all members of our school community are on different stages of a faith journey, and that this journey is by no means linear. Spiritual development in our school seeks to support every individual on their spiritual quest. Some aims for spiritual development in our school are for each child to:

- acquire insight into their personal existence,
- make sense of their life experiences,
- Develop the human capacity to go beyond the physical, tangible reality,
- Develop a sense of wonder, awe, reverence, imagination,
- Develop a sense of the presence of God / self-awareness of being in their lives,
- Develop the ability of being still yet alert
- Develop the ability to use all of their senses
- To promote an awareness of enjoyment in using their imaginative potential

- To encourage quiet reflection during a lesson
- Develop self-confidence in expressing inner thoughts in a variety of ways
- To find inner peace

We also recognise that the school can make a valuable contribution to the spiritual lives of families, the parish, the wider church and the local community.

Opportunities for Spiritual Development

We aim to:

- Provide opportunities for prayer and reflection
- Provide opportunities for experiential techniques such as listening, being still and quiet, perceiving the senses, being aware of the recent moment, imaginary journeys, guided imagery, attention to an object, exploring stories and self awareness.
- Develop an “inner peace”
- Develop a sense of God in their lives
- Deepen knowledge and understanding of the catholic and other major faiths of the world.
- Develop positive relationships in the school community
- Develop a positive self- image and self-esteem in pupils
- Develop the ability to transcend the mundane and be aware of the unseen dimension to life.
- Develop a spirit of enquiry and open-mindedness enhanced by the use of skilful and sensitive questioning by the teacher
- Encourage the search for meaning and life as a spiritual quest
- Develop self-knowledge and values by which to live
- Develop creativity by expressing innermost thoughts, imagination and feelings through art, appropriate music, literature and crafts.
- Develop feelings and emotions by being moved by beauty and kindness, hurt by injustice or aggression, a growing awareness of when it is important to control emotions and feelings and how to use such feelings as a source for growth.

Draft Copy – to be reviewed by staff and approved by Governors Spring 2021