

St Michael & Angels Catholic Primary School



Believe-Achieve- Belong...together with Christ.

Spiritual and Moral Development Policy

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**In the light of St Michael the Archangel,
we strive to be Champions of all
Christians and to the Church itself.**

**Christ Centred Aim- Believe
to live the Gospel Values and live life to
the full with forgiveness, love, respect
and kindness for all.**

**Teaching and Learning Aim- Achieve
to learn, grow and inspire as we act as
role models, when we care for others,
the world and the environment**

**Community Aim- Belong
to be messengers of Christ opening a
door to the Church for the community to
share it's Gospel Values both locally and
globally.**

Aim

St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary School offers opportunities for our children to develop spiritually, morally, intellectually, emotionally, and physically, towards their full and unique potential, in the sight of God.

Definition of Spiritual Development

Spiritual Development relates to the quest for individual identity and the search for meaning and purpose in our existence. It is associated with a dimension of life, which is not necessarily experienced through the physical senses, but has much to do with feelings and emotions, and attitudes and beliefs and is, accessible to everyone.

All areas of the curriculum should contribute to pupils' spiritual development. As a Catholic school, we place special emphasis on the specific teaching and beliefs of the Catholic faith, both within the daily life of the school and through the challenge of curriculum.

Spiritual Development is a process of growth. God comes to meet us through people, places and events, and this is the individual's response to these encounters with God that shape and determine our spiritual nature and growth. We are all made in God's image and likeness; therefore every meeting with someone is an encounter with God and an opportunity for spiritual growth. It is this recognising and responding to God that is a key element in spiritual development.

At St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary School:

- we provide the children with many opportunities during personal prayer, meditation and reflection, Assemblies, Acts of Worship, Celebration of Masses and RE lessons to encourage them to respect other faiths and the religious beliefs of others.
- we encourage and support our children to put the Gospel message of love and forgiveness into practice in their everyday lives and put Christ at the centre. This is also recognised in our school Code of Conduct.
- the children are taught that forgiveness is very important and that they are given the chance to make a fresh start after they have taken the consequences of any action or wrong-doing;
- we are all special and unique in God's eyes so we encourage self-worth and self-esteem by showing respect for each other;
- we help the children to understand and manage their emotions and feelings and if necessary provide additional support through pastoral support and reflection;
- we encourage the children to care for God's creation and learn to appreciate and develop a fascination and curiosity about the world in which we live;
- we provide opportunities throughout the day to come together in various groups to pray;
- support the spiritual growth of families through activities such as Stay and Pray, creative home tasks and newsletter prayers and thoughts.

Definition of Moral Development

Moral development has at its foundation, values. Values are the principles that inform judgments as to what is morally good or bad. Attitudes to other people and their actions, is the key part in our decisions to how we respect these others and their actions. Values both inform

and influence behaviour and therefore are fundamentally important both to school life and wider society.

Moral education helps pupils to acquire knowledge, understanding, intentions attitudes and behaviour in relation to what is right or wrong. The word “moral” is concerned with fundamental judgements and precepts about how we should behave and act and the reasons for such behaviour; it includes questions of intention, motive and attitude.

Moral Development

Moral education is part of everyday daily life and is constantly reinforced by how we as adults act as role models for the children. The gospel values of, “The Beatitudes”, is at the heart of all that we do. Gospel values “are a guarantee of peace and of the collaboration among all citizens in the shared commitment to serving the common good,” Pope John Paul II (2004).

Class Code of Conducts are developed in partnership with the pupils across the school. The code of acceptable behaviour is consistently adhered to and implemented. A whole school, consistent approach to behaviour is very important. Our children need to feel that they are being treated fairly by all staff and children.

At St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary school:

- we encourage and support positive relationships between all members of our school community. Our school mission statement reflects this, where everyone is valued;
- we encourage good behaviour that is acknowledged and rewarded on a daily basis in class and at playtimes through class systems of rewards, which include class smileys and respect cards.
- we encourage the children to take on roles of responsibility throughout the whole school which serve to help and support others e.g. School Councillors, Eco Warriors, Collective Worship Leaders, Attendance ambassadors and Playtime buddies.
- we expect high standards of behaviour and help the children to understand that there are consequences for their actions.
- we have a culture of forgiveness, which is reflected in our Behaviour Leadership Policy. Our Class Code of Conduct is based upon consideration for others. We recognise that responsibility and discipline should be inseparable.

At St Michael and All Angels Catholic Primary School, we are committed to supporting the spiritual and moral development of all our pupils. Through prayer, liturgy, Religious Education, and everyday experiences in school, children are encouraged to reflect on their own beliefs and values, develop a sense of right and wrong, and grow in empathy, respect, and responsibility. Rooted in the teachings of the Catholic Church, this policy ensures that pupils are guided to become thoughtful, caring, and confident individuals, able to contribute positively to our school community and to society as a whole.