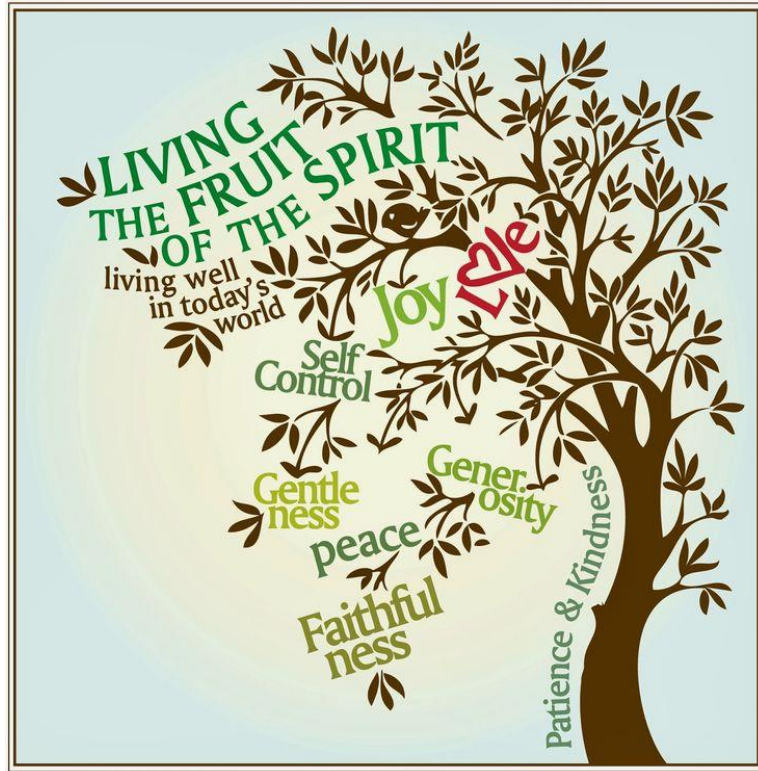


St Basil's Catholic Primary School



Policy for Spiritual & Moral Development

'In God's love we learn and succeed by following Jesus'

What is Spiritual development?

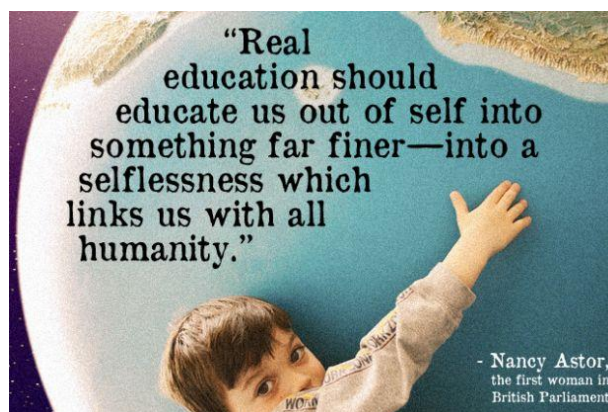
Spiritual development involves the development of beliefs, attitudes and values which guide and inspire our lives. For many people these will have a largely significant religious basis but we should also be aware that for others there will be little or no religious foundation to their spiritual development.

Therefore, it is important to realise that opportunities for spiritual development are not just restricted to timetabled Religious Education lessons. Spiritual development also provides many opportunities for work across the curriculum as well as through Collective Worship. Chiefly, the climate and ethos of the school impact heavily on the opportunities to develop individual pupil's beliefs.

Aims of spiritual development

Through spiritual education at St. Basil's, we aim to:

- ❑ Develop an understanding of insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values which guide and inspire our lives.
- ❑ As a Catholic school we seek to promote the Christian values of friendship, compassion and forgiveness.
- ❑ To offer a wealth of experiences that enables pupils to develop their understanding.
- ❑ Plan for and develop opportunities for children to demonstrate their developing insights, principles, beliefs, attitudes and values.
- ❑ Create a welcoming, opening and honest atmosphere permeated by the ethos and mission statement of the school.



Spiritual development at St. Basil's

Through our provision we aim to enhance individual children's spiritual development through:

- The climate, ethos and mission statement of the school.
- Provision of varied Collective Worship opportunities feeding the spiritual development of the whole school community.
- The celebration of seasons and feasts of the Christian calendar, as well as those of other faiths and cultures.
- The delivery of the 'Come and See' programme.
- Expectations of pupil behaviour – we will help the pupils to develop a respect for themselves as well as others.
- Use of P4C/PSHE/A Journey in Love resources to develop feelings of empathy with others.
- Creating and maintaining an environment of trust, care and compassion.
- Providing opportunities for children to reflect on all aspects of school and family life.
- Helping pupils to understand how their feelings and emotions impact upon others.
- Celebrating the uniqueness of each child and planning for opportunities in learning that will allow all children to achieve their full potential.
- Reinforcing school's values by providing positive images and role models.
- Supporting and developing pupil's religious beliefs and the way these impact on people's lives.
- Enabling children to be creative and to appreciate creation.

What is moral development?

Although spiritual and moral development work hand in hand, there is a clear distinction between the two. Where Spiritual development looks at the forming of beliefs, values and attitudes, moral development is how children apply their own personal beliefs in a social context. Allowing the children to develop a clear distinction between right and wrong, good and evil. It is important to remember that moral development is very individual and personal to and that we are mindful of simply transmitting our values onto those of the children in our care.

Aims of moral development

Through moral education at St. Basil's, we aim to:

- Develop an understanding of moral behaviour in line with our Mission Statement.
- Develop and nurture an environment and atmosphere of forgiveness, freedom, tolerance and respect.
- Extend pupils' knowledge and understanding of accepted gospel values in society.
- Develop pupils' skills and attitudes, such as decision making, self control and consideration for others.
- Give children the confidence to act in accordance with their own principles and thinking through the consequences of their actions.



Moral development at St. Basil's

Through our provision we aim to enhance individual children's moral development through:

- Understanding and living out our school Mission Statement.
- Promoting positive behaviour which provides a clear moral code that is promoted consistently throughout the school.
- To promote measures which prevent discrimination on any level.
- Providing opportunities within Collective Worship and across the whole curriculum to explore and develop moral concepts and values.
- Providing an open and safe learning environment where children can express their views and practise moral decision making.
- Providing positive role models and images of relationships, interactions and principles.
- Encouraging pupils to take responsibility for their actions.

Evidence of Spiritual and Moral development in our school community

By using and referring to our mission statement and its aims and objectives on a daily basis, we can ensure that we are building a strong Christian Community where all children and adults feel valued.

Examples of spiritual and moral development will permeate the school environment. It will be particularly evident in the following ways:

- Religious education work and lessons.
- Providing a variety of opportunities within Collective Worship.
- Pupil involvement in the life of the school, parish and wider community.
- The caring ethos and atmosphere within school.
- Relationships between all members of the school community.

Monitoring and evaluation of Spiritual and Moral development

The spiritual and moral development of all of our pupils is the responsibility of the whole school community. We aim to ensure that this is adopted by all through:

- Whole staff and departmental meetings
- Staff training
- Governor's meetings
- Parents meetings
- Links with the parish
- Links with the wider community.

The provision of spiritual and moral development and policy will be evaluated by the staff and governors at St Basil's on a regular basis.