

St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Policy for Spiritual Development

With God's guidance we love, learn, respect and forgive.

Aims

That each individual will be given the opportunity to;

- Be inspired by a sense of awe, wonder and mystery.
- Develop the need to search for meaning and purpose.
- Develop an awareness of self knowledge.
- Recognise and value the worth of relationships.
- Express innermost thoughts and feelings through creativity.
- Experience a sense of feelings and emotions.

Definition of Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is the concern to develop the most distinctive and desirable capacities of the human beings from other living creatures. It is a concern which goes beyond what a pupil can know and can do and relates to what sort of person they are and are becoming. (Kent SACRE)

School's Role

Spiritual development is best addressed through a holistic approach. "*All knowledge is a share in the infinite life of God.*"(The Future of Catholic Schools, Cardinal Hume, 1988). Therefore, all curriculum areas have a contribution to make.

This policy recognises that, although it is the primary task of the Catholic school to promote spiritual development from the specifically Catholic perspective, there are other traditions in the world.

Coordinator

The coordinator for spiritual development in the school will be the RE coordinator. The role includes;

- Review of the spiritual development policy.
- Advising the head teacher on amendments to be made to the policy.
- Promoting opportunities for spiritual development.
- Meet, in an advisory capacity, with curriculum leaders.
- Keep up to date with developments locally and nationally.

This policy emphasises the fact that the responsibility for spiritual development rests on all in the school. Each with their unique talents will be able to make their contributions.

Strategies

To provide spiritual development it will be up to each individual to use those strategies best suited to their individual talents.

- The creation of a high quality, calm working atmosphere.
- Planned opportunities for prayer, silence, meditation and retreats.
- The development of opportunities for quiet reflection in classrooms and Acts of Worship.

Monitoring

The delivery of the policy will be evaluated through staff meetings or on Inset days, to be determined by the Head teacher in consultation with the RE coordinator. Amendments to the policy will be made, if necessary, after these meetings. Evaluations of the effectiveness of the policy will be carried out and changes made as appropriate. Review date - 2022

