

RCADEMY TRUST

# Spirituality at Bunbury Aldersey CE Primary School

# 2023-2024





#### Our Core Values

Our core values provide a foundation on which we build relationships and educational experiences. They stand as a framework against which we can test the daily life of the school. This is what we do.

#### SUCCEED

Our curriculum development and delivery enable children to develop key skills and wider talents to a high standard. Through strategic investment and deployment, we will reduce the impact of barriers to learning and personal development such as SEND and mental health. Through planned challenge, children will develop resilience and perseverance to enable them to SUCCEED.

#### HOPE

We face the challenges of the modern world in a manner that is full of hope. We will educate our pupils to become transformational citizens that affect positive change in local communities and across the globe.

#### INSPIRE

Through first class teaching, high – quality resources and engaging experiences, we broaden our pupils' knowledge of the world and increase opportunity. Children will develop a curiosity and wonder about the world.

#### NURTURE

We help our children to develop into reflective and empathetic people. We focus on building positive relationships and enabling children to know what a positive, healthy relationship looks like. We target interventions based on individual and family need, having a positive impact on our whole community's physical, spiritual and mental wellbeing.

#### EMPOWER

Children take ownership over their learning and behaviours. They contribute to decision making that affects themselves, their classes and the whole school. They learn about Christian and British vales that enable them to become active citizens.





Our Values:

Our vision is set within the structure of our Christian beliefs and our new and successful work around The Rights Respecting Schools Award and consequently is underpinned by the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

WE aim to create an enjoyable, inclusive, safe and nurturing environment that allows all children to develop spiritually, morally and socially. – every child is a child of God, made to contribute to our world.

WE aim to create an inspiring environment, which encourages enthusiasm for lifelong learning and establishes an expectation of high standards - knowing the way, showing the way and going the way.

Article 29: Children's education should develop each child's personality, talents and abilities to the fullest. It should encourage children to respect others, human rights and their own and other cultures. It should also help them learn to live peacefully, protect the environment and respect other people.

WE aim to encourage caring, sensitive and inclusive attitudes where individuals feel secure, valued and respected by others. - like Jesus showed us through his teachings

Article 12: Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously.

WE aim to provide a broad and connected curriculum which challenges and develops the potential of each child – as Jesus needed his disciples to support and guide, so we look to others with more knowledge

Article 28: Every child has the right to an education

WE aim to develop a positive relationship between home, school and our wider community- as a family - as brothers and sisters.

Article 3: The best interests of the children must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children





## What is Spirituality?

At Bunbury, we believe in the importance of creating opportunities for children to grow spiritually. Each child and staff member has a reflection jotter to record thoughts and moments of spiritual awe and wonder. The children have spiritual activities that they take part in such as appreciating the outside world around us and this bank of activities is added to by the children through suggestions.

### **Our Bunbury Definition**

'Spirituality is not something we can see but is inside all of us. It is about giving time and space to reflect on the bigger picture and create a safe and inclusive environment for awe and wonder.'

There are 4 key elements to spirituality:

Element	What does this involve?
Self	<ul> <li>Awareness of feelings; ability to reflect and express</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Awareness of our uniqueness; happiness with who we are</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Gratitude for the things we have and the person we are</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Exploration of personal faith</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Development of imagination and creativity</li> </ul>
Others	<ul> <li>Empathy and understanding; respect, tolerance</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>To love and be loved (loving your neighbour)</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Making a difference; duty</li> </ul>
World	<ul> <li>Developing a sense of awe and wonder</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Enjoying the miracles of everyday life</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Taking time for what really matters</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Appreciating beauty in art, music, nature</li> </ul>
Beyond	<ul> <li>Encountering/experiencing God (having a sense of what lies</li> </ul>
	beyond the material/ physical)
	<ul> <li>Ability to formulate and discuss the 'Big Questions' (e.g. about</li> </ul>
	life, death, suffering, nature of God)
	<ul> <li>Opportunities for prayer, connecting with God</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Making sense of the world</li> </ul>





#### How do we do this at Bunbury?

- We provide a range of opportunities for children to develop spiritually in all areas of the curriculum. In particular, through Religious Education, PSHE, Humanities, Art and Music.
- We provide and plan for a wide range of opportunities for children to develop spiritually through Worship including: whole school, church services and special services.
- We also promote spiritual development opportunities through our wider curriculum, for example: during our themed weeks such as 'Neurodiversity Week'; 'School Fest Week'; and through other extra-curricular activities such as the school leavers' drama production.
- We provide opportunities for reflection. This might be listening to a story, lighting a candle in worship, engaging in our reflection areas in school and in the outdoor environment.
- We provide regular opportunities to explore, express and share feelings.
- Positive relationships are role modelled around school.
- We provide opportunities to express awe and wonder, appreciate beauty in all its forms and appreciate connections and unity in the world.
- We also facilitate opportunities for spiritual growth which are unplanned.
- We encourage the children to show the Christian values and express these in practical ways.
- We provide opportunities to explore big questions.
- We create a supportive environment in which every individual feels themselves to be an important part of the school.
- We provide opportunities for prayer, including silence and stillness.
- We focus on 3 areas: Windows, Mirrors and Doors.





Windows	Opportunities to look out on the world to gaze and
Looking out	wonder: The "Wow" and "Ows" moments. The things
	we find amazing. We can wonder at the world, technology, art, music, scientific advances all around us. We may work outside, visit places of interest, celebrate inspirational people. We can reflect on injustice and inequality in the world.
Mirrors	Giving opportunities for children to reflect, to look
Looking in	inward to consider some of the big questions of life:
	To explore their own insights and those of others. This could be compared with looking in a mirror. Look at yourself in a situation How would you react, what would you say or do? These are questions which may arise through lesson time.
Doors	Giving opportunities to children to respond, to do
Looking ahead	something to go through the door of a creative
	expression of their own thoughts and convictions. Children would be living out our Christian values, considering how our own beliefs and faiths drive changes in the wider world.

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- RCSAT Collective Worship Policy
- RCSAT Equality Procedure
- RCSAT Dignity and Respect Procedure