

ST MARGARET'S C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL
SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT
POLICY

Mission Statement: We seek to be a learning centre of excellence at the heart of the community, fostering the intellectual, spiritual and emotional development of all who play a part in the school, looking to follow the teachings of Jesus in all we do. (1998)

Our Objectives

At St Margaret's CEP School we believe that spiritual development should be incorporated in all aspects of the school curriculum and that the following objectives would be intrinsic in our lessons:

- To recognise the value of relationships and that each person is a person of worth;
- To pursue issues that impinge upon what a "person" is and give value and identity to life;
- To sustain the self-esteem of pupils in their learning experiences;
- To develop a sense of self-knowledge and self-awareness and an acknowledgement of the principles and values by which we live;
- To provide opportunities for the expression of imagination, inspiration, insight, empathy and understanding throughout the curriculum;
- To encourage the setting aside of a time when pupils can reflect upon the inspiring quality of the world, whether it be a sense of the power of nature or the creative imagination of human beings;
- To promote opportunities of stillness, silence and reflection;

- To foster the emotional life of the pupil, particularly with regard to the experience of feelings;
- To encourage the search for meaning;
- To promote the quest for learning;
- To share the joy of learning.

How We Intend to Identify Success Criteria:

We believe that spirituality can be identified in our children by the following:

- Children will develop a set of positive values, principles and beliefs, which inform their perspective on their life and patterns of behaviour;
- Children will show an awareness, respect, tolerance and understanding of their own beliefs and those of others;
- Children will have a respect for themselves and for others;
- Children will show a sense of empathy with others, and concern and compassion for people and things;
- Children will show an appreciation of beauty, truth, love and goodness, as well as asking a range of questions about personal experience;
- Children show a respect for insight and mystery as well as knowledge and reason;
- Children develop a readiness to challenge forms of discrimination such as sexism and racism, as well as poverty, aggression, greed and injustice;
- Children will reflect on feelings and emotions and their actions towards others, and their likely impact on others;
- Children will indicate their personal views and insights, through verbal, written, drawn or dramatised responses.

Our Aims:

- To provide an environment which reflects the values we wish to promote within a CE (Aided) school.
- To admit children to our school in a Christian atmosphere where Christian values are paramount and evident.
- To provide an R.E. programme which is consistent throughout the school which involves pupils in the acquisition of knowledge and in the exploration of their own beliefs and experiences and to consider and reflect upon the beliefs and experiences of others.
- To share in Collective Worship that is planned and thought provoking which encourages children to be reflective and to be inspired by God's world.
- To provide a broad and balanced curriculum which offers equality of opportunity and inclusion.
- To involve our children in experiences beyond the immediate school environment and especially to make links with St Margaret's Parish Church and St Margaret's Community Church.