



Tenterden Church of England Junior School

'With God as our companion, we learn, grow and flourish'

Tenterden Junior School Spiritual Development Policy

Policy Approved: October 2021

Policy Reviewed: March 2023

Review Date: March 2025

Our Vision

As a welcoming Church school we aspire to provide care and support for each other and the wider community. Through the practical application of Christian values and a positive growth mind-set our pupils challenge themselves to be independent, inquisitive and knowledgeable; a positive influence on society.

Aims

To develop the spirituality of each member of our school community through our Christian values

Perseverance

I can't do it...yet!

- To provide a context of faith, security and loving relationships to support each person's spiritual search
- To enable each person to experience a sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible

Respect

Treat others as you would like to be treated

- To develop and foster a respect and empathy for other people's feelings, values and beliefs
- To value the natural world and a commitment to care for creation

Love

Live and love as a Christian community together (Koinonia)

A sense of being in relationship with others and a growing understanding of what it means to belong to a community.

- To develop a sense of awe and wonder at the miracle of creation, life and the natural world
- Every person entering our school has the ability to grow, take on knowledge and then flourish into a strong citizen within the wider community

Faithfulness

Trust in yourself and your God

- To foster the faith and self-confidence to express and develop individual spirituality through a safe environment
- To instil trust in relationships with others and a growing understanding of what it means to belong to a community.
- The nurturing of intergenerational relationships within our community

Approaches

We seek to find ways in which all areas of the curriculum can contribute to children's spiritual development

- Through worship and example, we encourage children to grow through their experience of God's love.
- We provide occasions for people of all spiritual styles e.g. Experience Easter and Experience Christmas, traditional Church
- We seek to foster spiritual capacities, eg. imagination, insight and empathy with reference to the window, door, mirror analogy and traffic lights
- We seek to promote intergenerational relationships and courageous advocacy.
- We allow children the opportunity to explore and express feelings and emotions.
- We provide opportunities for prayer including silence and stillness.
- We share feelings and experiences that foster hope and joy, reassurance and encouragement, including mental health and wellbeing.
- We enable children to make the links between biblical values the life of the school and the wider community.
- We ask big questions and give children time to reflect on their belief.

Monitoring and Evaluation Opportunities offered to children for Spiritual Development will be monitored and evaluated in the following ways:

- Monitoring of lesson plans and teaching and learning by subject leaders/SLT/headteacher/governors.
- Encouraging children to participate in monitoring of Collective Worship.
- Audit of policies and schemes of work.
- Regular discussion at staff and governor meetings.
- Sharing of classroom work and practice.
- Evidence from pupils' work, including floor books e.g. big questions.
- Regular inclusion in SEF.