



Callow End CE Primary School

At Callow End we provide a caring environment where everyone works together to build a firm foundation for love and learning. As a foundation for love we provide a welcoming, safe and supportive environment in which the qualities and abilities of all our pupils are nurtured and celebrated. We use our school's Christian values to guide us, sharing an ethos of love and respect, treating everyone in the way that we would like to be treated. We strive to celebrate differences both in our school community and around the world through our teaching, learning and shared life with our Church.

As a foundation for learning, we promote excellence, providing an inspirational curriculum which enables all pupils to aspire, achieve and flourish. We want our children to have positive emotional and mental health, and an understanding of their place in the wider world.

All our policies are written to reflect and support this vision.

Spirituality Policy

At Callow End we believe that spirituality is about the search for meaning and purpose in life and we aim to allow everyone time and space to develop their own faith, belief and values. As a school, we define Spirituality as:

- Connecting to something greater than ourselves
- Having an awareness of the beauty of God's creation
- Understanding that we can make a difference in the world through our choices and actions

Our welcoming, safe and supportive environment helps our pupils to grow and become fulfilled. Our core Christian vision and values are rooted in the teachings of the Bible and are central to the ethos of the school. These vision and values are a vital part of both the spiritual and moral development of our pupils.

Children's spiritual development involves the growth of their sense of self, their unique potential, their understanding of their strengths and weaknesses, and their will to achieve. As their curiosity about themselves and their place in the world increases, they try to answer for themselves some of the 'big questions' of life. At Callow End we support our pupils in developing the knowledge, skills, understanding and attitudes they need to foster their own inner lives and well-being.

We help pupils to experience a sense of:

- Awe and wonder
- Connection with others
- Prayer and worship
- Well-being that does not rely on material possessions
- Purposefulness
- Personal discovery
- Holy mystery
- Embracing life with enthusiasm, as a gift from God to be enjoyed

Objectives for Spiritual Development:

- To develop the skill of being physically still, yet alert.
- To develop the skill of being mentally still, concentrating on the present moment
- To develop the ability to use all ones senses
- To promote an awareness of and enjoyment in using ones imaginative potential and to develop curiosity and a questioning approach – discussing issues and themes
- To encourage quiet reflection during a lesson or collective worship, reflecting on what is going well and how we can improve further.
- To reflect on own behaviour and situations which may be disturbing them
- To consider the mystery of God and the wonder of His world
- To promote self-image and develop positive self esteem
- To have the opportunity to develop personal beliefs
- To explore the opportunity to pray
- To know their own strengths and acknowledge that they will find some things difficult
- To promote the ability to keep trying and seek success

The Spiritual Development of children is shown by their:

- Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, which inform their perspective on life
- Interest in and respect for different people's feelings, values and faiths.
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them, including the intangible
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences

We will encourage children's spiritual development by:

- Giving children the opportunity to explore values and beliefs, including religious beliefs, and the way in which they impact on peoples' lives.
- Encouraging children to explore and develop what inspires them and others.
- Giving children the opportunity to think about human feelings and emotions, the way they impact on people and how an understanding of them can be helpful.
- Developing an environment in which all children can grow and flourish, enjoying individual liberty and mutual respect.
- Accommodating difference and respecting the integrity of individuals, including tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.
- Promoting learning opportunities which value children's questions, ideas and opinions, encourage deeper questions and give them space for their own thoughts, ideas and concerns.