



Shaftesbury C of E Primary School  
(Part of the Shaftesbury Academy Trust)

# **Spirituality Statement**

At Shaftesbury CE Primary School we define spiritual development as:

- the development of the awareness that there is something more to life than meets the eye
- something more than the material, something more than the obvious
- something to wonder at, something to respond to
- developing an understanding of self in relation to others, the world and ourselves

## **1 Ethos**

Shaftesbury CE Primary School has a history of being a voluntary controlled primary school. We value our Christian foundation, and as part of the Church of England we assume an openness and acceptance of the name of Christ and our teaching and social demeanour is based on Christian values

## **2 Aims**

- To develop the children's sense of wonder and curiosity about life
- To help the children understand that there are some situations in life which do not have one clear answer, and to discover answers to some of these questions themselves
- To develop an attitude of reflection and stillness in the busyness of life
- To learn how beliefs and commitments mould human experience and endeavours; that what you believe in matters, it can have an impact on life.
- To grow a community within which pupils, of all faiths or none, can respect others and be respected
- To recognise the Holy, Sacred and Divine

## **3 Spiritual Development**

Within this field we aim to enable children to:

- Know themselves
- To be able to express their inner knowledge, confidence, belief, love, self awareness and peace
- Consider the mystery of God
- To be still and alive to the present moment

## **4 Spirituality across the curriculum**

- There are many ways we can develop opportunities for spiritual development through the foundation stage curriculum, the National Curriculum, RE and Worship, links with the local community and church and the ethos of the daily life in school
- We recognise that space is needed in the lessons to encourage pupils to think, question, discuss and reflect on what they are doing and learning
- We value children's questions and aim to help them to explore and make connections between aspects of their work across the curriculum

- We encourage children to use all of their senses in exploration of their place in the world
- All staff seek to promote a consistent and supportive attitude and environment in which the children feel able to express themselves and take risks with learning

## **5 Monitoring and Review**

It is the responsibility of the school leader for Spirituality, and the foundation committee governors, to ensure that the school maintains and reflects upon its approach to Spirituality through the continued development of the school ethos, its approach to collective worship and its teaching of the creative curriculum. Outcome from this monitoring and review would be tabled at the foundation committee meetings held 3 times per academic year.