

ETTINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL



SPIRITUAL, MORAL, SOCIAL & CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT



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APPROVED BY THE GOVERNONING BODY

School Mission Statement :

At Ettington C of E Primary School we aim to ensure that the well being of all children and staff is paramount in creating a happy and caring Christian ethos.

We seek to provide a stimulating and creative curriculum which challenges and enriches all of our children's lives and enables them to flourish and aspire to achieving high standards.

It is important that we value and develop the strengths of our children and strive to meet their individual needs, equipping them with the necessary skills to thrive in their life long learning journey.

We take pride in our school community and value the partnership staff have with parents, carers and governors.

School Ethos & Moral Development

Moral development is concerned with children's ability to make judgements about how to behave and the reasons for such behaviour. It requires knowledge and understanding and includes questions of intention, motive and attitude. The school aims to create an ethos which reflects shared values, fosters a sense of belonging to a supportive community, and enables children to develop self-discipline and a recognition of the rights and needs of others.

We aim to help children towards:

- moral behaviour based on knowledge, choice and principles
- an understanding of the conventions of society
- self-discipline
- accountability for their own actions
- recognition of personal worth for themselves and others
- mutual respect
- a questioning, reflective and evaluative approach to experiences

- a development of personal views and insights with a degree of self-knowledge

School Values

We accept the statement in the NCC Discussion paper (Spiritual and Moral Development) “Personal morality combines the beliefs and values of individuals, those of social, cultural and religious groups to which they belong, and the laws and customs of the wider society”.

School values include :

- telling the truth
- keeping promises
- respecting the rights and property of others
- acting considerately towards others
- helping those less fortunate and weaker than ourselves
- taking personal responsibility for one’s actions
- self-discipline

School values reject :

- bullying
- cheating
- deceit
- cruelty
- irresponsibility
- dishonesty

Spiritual Development

While spirituality and religion may complement each other, they are not the same. Spiritual development encourages and grows from the ability to interpret experiences in a way, which may transcend the physical senses and everyday language. It is concerned with relationships, beliefs, reflection, self-knowledge and identity, feelings and emotions, creativity, and the search for meaning and purpose. It values a non-material dimension to life. It has many aspects in common with moral development.

We aim to help children towards :

- the development of personal beliefs
- self-awareness
- recognising and valuing the worth of each individual (including themselves)
- an ability to express their own thoughts and feelings creatively
- the exercise of imagination, and the experience of inspiration and insight
- the experience of awe, wonder and mystery
- the ability to recognise their own feelings

Social Development

Social development involves children's growth in knowledge and understanding of society in all its aspects. There are a number of levels of community, which our children may experience and enter during their time as school. These range from the 'best friend' pairing, through working groups, their class, their key stage, a sports team, an interest group, the whole school family, the local neighbourhood, the church family, the town and beyond. At the same time they are members of their own family and friendship networks, and other groups outside school.

In order to benefit from and contribute to these communities children need to learn how to become active members.

We aim to help children towards :

- an acceptance of the rules which govern behaviour in each situation
- an ability to share the joys and concerns of that community
- setting themselves in an appropriate place within that community
- being open to others
- an awareness of potential dangers from some members of the wider community
- an understanding of the effect of their actions on the community
- respect for others
- an ability to identify and question stereotypical attitudes in themselves and others

Cultural Development

Cultural development is concerned with having access to a wide range of cultural interests and stimuli, which encourage the development of new insights. It also involves aesthetic appreciation, and a knowledge of beliefs, values, customs and skills which form the basis of difference societies.

We aim to help children towards :

- a knowledge and understanding of their own traditions and cultural heritage
- a knowledge and understanding of some of the faiths, traditions, and people in Ettington
- an awareness of contemporary lifestyles in other countries
- an appreciation of the contribution of many cultures to important developments in justice, the arts and sciences
- a recognition of our common humanity

Opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development

The role of the school is to :

- create and actively maintain an appropriate school ethos
- provide appropriate opportunities for development in the planned curriculum eg history, geography, the arts, RE, PHSE, English, maths and sciences
- provide opportunities for development in school worship, community relations, social activities eg acts of collective worship, links with the church, sports competitions, arts events
- invite children to grasp these opportunities and reflect on their experiences
- set clear boundaries for behaviour
- be consistent in its approach to these issues in all aspects of the management and administration of the school
- invite all members of the wider school family to embrace this approach

Bibliography

National Society Publications :

Church School Inspection
The Church School
Moral Education
Spiritual Development in Schools

The Ofsted Handbook – guidance on the inspection of nursery and primary schools

NCC – Spiritual and Moral Development – Discussion paper