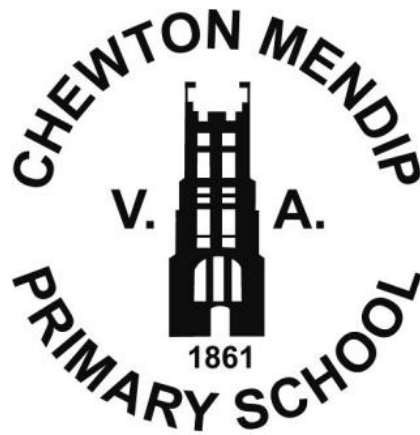


Chewton Mendip Church of England
Voluntary Aided Primary School



Spirituality Policy

Approved by: FGB

Last reviewed on: September 2026

Next review due by: September 2028

“The seed fell into good ground and grew up increasing and yielding thirty, sixty and a hundred times as much” Mark 4:8

We are “Growing Together” to become the best we can be and enjoy “life in all its fullness.” (John 10:10)

We are like the seeds growing in the good soil in the Parable of the Sower. We grow and learn together every day. Our school is the good soil where we are cared for, encouraged and helped to flourish.

Our values of **Kindness, Respect, Perseverance, Responsibility, Honesty and Courage** are the strong roots and enable us to try our best and become confident, caring people, following the teachings of Jesus.

Staff, pupils, families and the local community work together as a team to provide a safe, nurturing and inclusive environment for everyone to reach their full potential and achieve our school aims.

Our School Aims

We aim to:

- Show kindness by looking after each other and ourselves.
- Showing respect by treating everyone the way we want to be treated.
- We keep going, especially when things are challenging.
- We take responsibility for our own actions. We think about how our actions impact our school community and our wider world.
- We are honest and trustworthy
- We are courageous and try new things. We stand up for what is right and believe in ourselves.
- We grow together to help each other learn and celebrate everyone’s talents and work as a team.
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Introduction

As a Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School, spirituality is central to our identity, our vision, and the daily lived experience of our community. Rooted in the Parable of the Sower (Mark 4:8) and inspired by Jesus’ promise of “*life in all its fullness*” (John 10:10), we believe every child is a unique seed with God-given potential. Our school provides the “good ground” in which all can grow, flourish and become the best they can be.

Our Christian values of **Kindness, Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance, Honesty and Courage** form the strong roots that nurture spiritual development. They shape how we live, how we learn, and how we relate to one another as we **Grow Together**.

This policy outlines how spirituality is understood, nurtured and celebrated across our school community.

Our vision is theologically grounded in the Parable of the Sower. We believe:

- Every child is precious, created in the image of God.
- Spiritual growth happens when children are nurtured, encouraged and supported.
- Our school community—staff, pupils, families and the wider parish—works together to cultivate fertile soil where all can flourish.
- Spirituality is expressed through character, relationships, creativity, curiosity, reflection and compassionate action.

This shapes our ethos, curriculum, worship and community life.

Definition of Spirituality

Spirituality is the human capacity to:

- Reflect deeply on life's big questions
- Experience awe, wonder and mystery
- Develop a sense of identity, belonging and purpose
- Recognise beauty, joy, compassion and love
- Respond to experiences with empathy, creativity and imagination
- Explore beliefs, values and meaning
- Understand ourselves, others and the world more fully

In our school, spirituality is not limited to religious belief. It is inclusive, invitational and accessible to all, respecting the diverse backgrounds and worldviews of our pupils and families.

Aims of this Policy

We aim to:

- Nurture spiritual growth by providing opportunities for pupils and adults to reflect, wonder, question and explore meaning.
- Ensure that *Growing Together* and *life in all its fullness* are lived out daily.
- Support children to grow strong roots of **Kindness, Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance, Honesty and Courage** to develop character.
- Enable all children to flourish academically, socially, emotionally and spiritually in a safe inclusive and nurturing environment.
- Work in partnership with families, the parish church and the wider community to support spiritual development, strengthen community and belonging.
- Respect and value the spiritual and cultural backgrounds of all pupils.

How Spirituality is Promoted Across School Life

a. Collective Worship

Collective Worship is at the centre of our school's spiritual life. It provides:

- Time for stillness, reflection and prayer
- Opportunities to explore Christian teaching and biblical stories
- Space to respond creatively through music, silence, art or discussion
- A sense of belonging and shared purpose
- Regular involvement of clergy, families and pupils

All children are able to engage at their own level.

b. Curriculum

Spirituality is woven through all subjects. We provide:

- Awe and wonder in science, nature and discovery
- Creativity and imagination in art, music and drama
- Reflection and questioning in RE and PSHE
- Opportunities for moral and ethical thinking
- Space to explore identity, culture and belief
- Encouragement to persevere, take risks and be courageous learners

Teachers plan for spiritual moments and reflective opportunities across the curriculum.

c. Environment

Our school environment supports spiritual growth through:

- Calm, reflective spaces indoors and outdoors
- Displays that celebrate values, diversity and creativity
- Opportunities to connect with nature and the outdoors
- A culture of kindness, respect and care

The environment reflects our belief that the school is “good ground” where all can flourish.

d. Relationships and Behaviour

Spirituality is lived out through relationships grounded in our values:

- **Kindness** in how we care for one another
- **Respect** in how we listen and value each person
- **Responsibility** in how we act and contribute
- **Perseverance** in how we face challenges
- **Honesty** in how we speak and behave
- **Courage** in how we stand up for what is right

These values shape our behaviour expectations and all that we do.

e. Community and Church Links

We nurture spirituality through:

- Strong partnership with the church
- Celebration of Christian festivals
- Opportunities for service, charity and social action
- Engagement with families and the wider community
- Shared events, worship and learning

Our Christian character makes a positive difference beyond the school gates.

Inclusion and Diversity

We welcome and respect pupils of all faiths and those of none. Spirituality is accessible to all and never imposed. We:

- Provide space for personal reflection
- Encourage children to share their own beliefs and experiences
- Celebrate diversity of culture, worldview and tradition
- Ensure all pupils feel valued, heard and included

Our approach is invitational, open and respectful.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Spiritual development is monitored through:

- Pupil voice and reflection
- Curriculum planning and review
- SIAMS self-evaluation
- Governor monitoring of Christian distinctiveness