

## **Belgrave St Peter's Primary School: Spiritual Development and Religious Education**

### **Whole School Definition of Spirituality**

At Belgrave St Peter's Primary School, spirituality is the recognition that there is something greater than ourselves—an awareness akin to being a small fish in the vast ocean of life.

Our official definition states: Spirituality at Belgrave St Peter's Primary School means recognising a belief that there is something bigger than ourselves that cannot be held or touched. We believe that each of us has a soul that needs to be nurtured: it involves focusing on our thoughts, beliefs and values as individuals, as a school, and within the wider community. This belief helps to guide us in our decision-making and instils respect for all other people and the world around us.

This ethos underpins our approach to education, embedding spiritual, moral, social, and cultural development (SMSC) at the heart of all we do. SMSC development is woven into our curriculum, supporting Religious Education, Collective Worship, PSHE, Relationships and Sex Education, and Equal Opportunities policies. It ensures that all staff play a role in nurturing pupils' personal growth through discussion, reflection, and positive role modelling.

### **Awareness and Understanding of Our Definition**

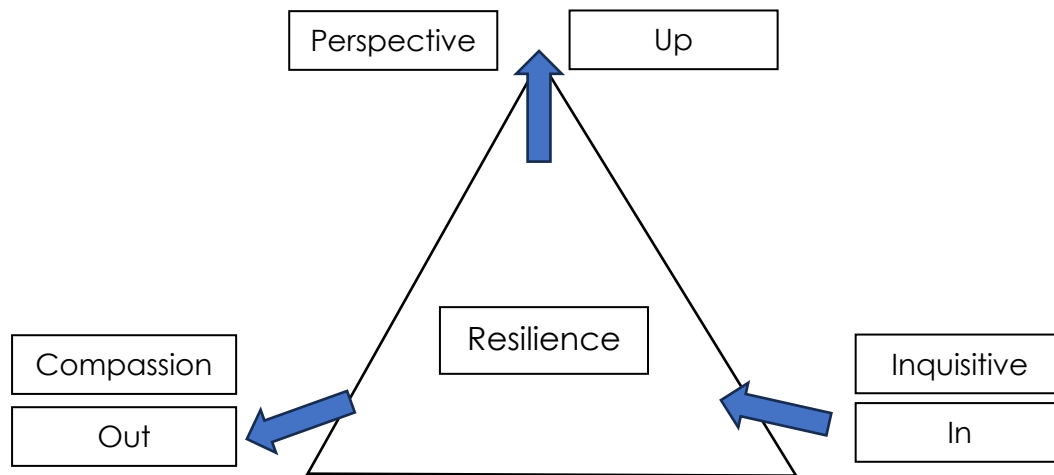
It is our expectation that all pupils, staff, and parents understand our definition of spirituality and can articulate what it means. Through assemblies, classroom discussions, and school-wide initiatives, we reinforce this understanding. Our ethos team plays a key role in ensuring that our spiritual values are lived out daily.

### **Opportunities for Religious Education Across School Life**

Belonging Board: Our Belonging Board visually represents our interconnectedness. Each child has contributed a petal, which together form flowers. The mixed-year groups reflect our school family, demonstrating that while we are individuals, we grow together spiritually. Key ethos words—inclusive, care, welcoming, respect, love, faith, hope—are placed at the centre of each flower, symbolising the core values that unite us.



## Spirituality Triangle: Compassion, Inquisitive, Perspective -> Resilience



Inquisitive - In (Self-Reflection and Growth): Exploring spirituality within ourselves—mind, body, and soul. Encouraging children to engage in reflective practices, such as journaling, meditation, and prayer.

Compassion - Out (Community and Connection): Living out school values of faith, hope, and love through actions towards others, recognising needs beyond our own, and fostering compassion and kindness.

Perspective - Up (Bigger Picture and Belief): Understanding our place within a greater context—whether in relation to God, a higher purpose, or the world. Encouraging pupils to explore different perspectives and broaden their understanding of spirituality.

Resilience at the Centre: Connecting all three aspects, resilience is fundamental to our spiritual development. It supports our ability to overcome challenges, deepen self-awareness, and sustain meaningful connections with others.

### Embedding Spirituality Across the School

To ensure spirituality is deeply embedded in school life, we propose the following initiatives:

**Staff Training:** Ensuring all staff can confidently integrate spirituality into their teaching practices.

**Reflection Corners:** Maintaining designated reflection areas in all classrooms and communal spaces.

**Cross-Curricular Links:** Integrating spirituality into subjects beyond RE, such as literature, science, and history.

Student-Led Spirituality Initiatives: Encouraging children to create and lead their own reflections, prayers, or mindfulness sessions.

### **Ethos Council and Collective Worship**

Our Ethos Council plays a crucial role in fostering spirituality within school life:

Leading Worship & Prayer: Writing and delivering prayers for assemblies, special events, and classroom reflections.

Planning Events & Charity Work: Organising fundraising activities and community initiatives that align with our school values.

Reflection Area Monitoring: Ensuring all children have access to meaningful reflection spaces in classrooms, hallways, and the school hall.

Evaluating Collective Worship: Gathering pupil feedback on worship sessions to enhance engagement and relevance.

### Promoting School Values at Break and Lunchtimes

Our ethos councillors are currently focused on improving playground behaviour by creating posters and initiatives that align with our spiritual values and the four key triangle words (passion, inquisitive, perspective, resilience). Suggestions include:

Using Your Big Voice: Encouraging children to speak up respectfully when they need help or want to include others.

Looking Out for Others: Promoting kindness by noticing and assisting peers in need.

Inclusion and Respect: Ensuring everyone has a place to play and participate.

Encouraging Curiosity and Problem-Solving: Supporting peer mediation by helping children find solutions to conflicts peacefully.

Through these initiatives, Belgrave St Peter's Primary School remains committed to nurturing a deep sense of spirituality within our pupils, ensuring they grow as compassionate, reflective, and engaged individuals who contribute positively to the world around them.