

Spirituality at St Luke's CE Academy



Helping Lights Shine For All

The conviction at the heart of the church of England Vision for Education, is that children who are part of a school community formed around our vision will discover an education that embraces excellence and academic rigour with the wider framework of **spiritual**, physical, intellectual, emotional, moral and social development and enables them to flourish. (The Church of England Education Office)

SHARING HOW WE FILL OUR SPIRITUAL HOLE.

We would like to make a display of our children's spirituality in recognition of our Motto Helping Lights Shine for all, we celebrate difference. We would like to collect pictures of our children doing whatever they like doing to fill their 'spiritual hole.' Please send these via dojo or directly to the class teacher.

Childrens' spiritual development may be shown by their:

Beliefs, religious or other wise, which inform their perspective on life, interest in and respect for people feelings and values

Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves and the world around them including the intangible

Use of their imagination and creativity In their learning

Willingness to reflect on their experiences.

The Doughnut Analogy Through our daily worship, we have been exploring the concept of 'spirituality' and spiritual development with our children. We began thinking about a ring doughnut. We explained simply that there is a hole inside all of us that needs filling in order for us to be whole. It's an invisible hole that is filled when we feel a connection to something bigger than ourselves and find meaning in our lives, resulting in peace and joy.

The children discussed what aspects of their lives help them to fill their spiritual hole. Below are a few examples.



When I draw, I feel like I am in my own world and it makes me feel whole. I feel free.

When I go outside and feel the breeze flowing in my face, it makes me feel calm.

I like taking care of animals, stroking them and making them feel happy.

When I give things to people and make them smile..

When we are all together for worship I feel calm and blessed.

Running to the top of a hill and looking at the beautiful hills.

When my mum or my friends give me a big hug. I feel worry free.

I feel calm and relaxed when I look up at the sky full of stars. I wonder is there more to life out there?

Prayer for Our Children

Heavenly Father, hold our children in your loving arms and protect them from all danger and evil. Let them know right from wrong. May they show forgiveness and compassion to all living things. Fill their hearts with peace, love and happiness. When their days have passed take them with you to your everlasting kingdom. Amen.

At St Luke's, we recognise that, there is no universal definition of 'spirituality', because it is a very personal experience. It differs from person to person, and often spirituality changes within people during their lifetime. Luke 2:52 states that Jesus, the example and inspiration for Christians, 'grew in wisdom and in stature and in favour with God and all the people', as he developed as a young man. This verse suggests he developed the academic wisdom of his mind, his physical body and also as a social and spiritual being. At St Luke's we strive to develop the body, mind and spirit of our school community, to enable them to become fully rounded individuals.