

THE PRIORY SPIRITUAL DISTINCTIVENESS

Spirituality makes us who we are. It is our ability to reflect about our own beliefs. It is being able to inform our perspective on life and our interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values. It is those times in our everyday lives that affect or change us in order to make us a better person. It helps us to think about who we are, how we can improve the lives of others and as a result improve our own happiness through sharing, caring and being kind.

Spirituality allows us to experience and appreciate the beauty of our world and all things great. It is that sense of enjoyment and being fascinated in learning about ourselves, others and the world around us.

It is our aim to find effective ways of developing our pupils' aspirations, their sense of identity, self-worth and belonging, their principles, beliefs and values, appreciating the world around them, taking responsibility and becoming conscious of choices they make.

Our school foundation is built upon our Christian values of; Love, Forgiveness, Respect and Aspiration. Our aim is to foster the intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual development of all our pupils. We believe that children need a caring, consistent environment where they are treated with respect and where their well-being is seen as paramount. We believe that our pupils should leave the Priory with: A sense of moral and spiritual awareness, a love of learning and the desire to achieve high standards in all that they do, a sense of where they belong, a sense of wonder and curiosity about the world around them and a growing ability to relate to and communicate with others.

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT AT PRIORY SCHOOL:

- Will allow our pupils to understand and explore values and beliefs, Christian beliefs and beliefs that are personal and relevant to them and the way in which they impact on peoples' lives;
- Will encourage pupils to reflect on their experiences as well as learn from these;
- Will provide opportunities to understand feelings and emotions and develop understanding and empathy;
- Will allow pupils to grow and flourish, respect others and be respected;
- Will promote teaching styles which:
 - ✓ Value pupils' questions and give them time to reflect on their own thoughts and ideas and to explore responses;
 - ✓ Enable pupils to **make sense** of what is offered to them, **understand the impact** and **make connections** that are relevant to them;
 - ✓ Will allow pupils to know that spirituality is all around us and it is what makes us who we are.