



St Thomas à Becket Primary School

Roots to grow, wings to fly.

“If you have faith as small as a mustard seed...nothing is impossible for you.”

Matthew 17:20



Friendship | Respect | Truth | Forgiveness | Thankfulness | Perseverance

You only have one life, one childhood, one opportunity. School is one of the most important experiences you will ever have. At St Thomas à Becket we will stop at nothing to ensure that you are given every chance to succeed. Through our faith and wisdom, we will give you strong roots to grow into resilient, respectful and ambitious citizens. We will open doors so that you can imagine endless possibilities and a life without limits. We will give you wings to fly.

St Thomas à Becket Primary School Spirituality Strategy

“The glory of God is a human being fully alive.”— St Irenaeus

Vision and Purpose

At St Thomas à Becket Primary School, rooted in the teachings of Christ and guided by our patron saint’s example of faith, integrity, and courage, we believe spirituality is the foundation for a flourishing life. Our strategy aims to nurture the spiritual development of every child and adult in our community, allowing them to explore, reflect, and grow in faith and understanding.

A Shared Definition of Spirituality

At St Thomas à Becket, we define spirituality as:

“The human capacity to search for meaning, purpose, and connection – with ourselves, others, the world, and something greater, often expressed through awe, wonder, stillness, reflection, and belonging.”

We recognise that spirituality is not confined to religious belief but is a universal human experience that can be nurtured in people of all faiths or none.

Aims of our Spirituality Strategy:

- Provide regular, meaningful opportunities for spiritual reflection and encounter.
- Embed spirituality throughout the curriculum, school life, and community engagement.
- Develop staff understanding and confidence in identifying and supporting spiritual moments.
- Use the Windows, Mirrors, Doors framework to engage learners in reflection, self-awareness, and action.

Planned Opportunities for Spiritual Development

We integrate spirituality intentionally through:

1. Collective Worship & Liturgy

- Daily worship exploring Christian values, biblical stories, and global issues.
- Use of music, silence, prayer, and storytelling to invite awe and contemplation.
- Inclusion of pupil-led worship and reflective prayer spaces.

2. RE Curriculum

- Deep, thoughtful exploration of Christianity and other world faiths.
- Encouragement of personal reflection and respectful dialogue.
- Opportunities to grapple with ‘big questions’ about life, identity, justice, and purpose.

3. Curriculum Enrichment

- Embedding spiritual reflection across subjects (e.g., wonder in science, beauty in art, empathy in history).
- Encouraging deeper thinking through ‘big questions’ and creative expression.
- Outdoor learning to connect with the natural world and foster a sense of stewardship.

4. Sacred Spaces

- Dedicated reflection areas in classrooms and communal spaces, including outside.
- Opportunities for personal prayer, silence, or creative reflection.

Spontaneous Moments of Spirituality

Staff are trained and encouraged to notice and nurture unplanned spiritual moments:

- During conversations when children share personal thoughts, feelings, or deep questions.
- Using the vocabulary of ‘a moment bigger than me’ to identify an unplanned reflection or spiritual moment

- When awe arises naturally – in nature, art, music, or classroom discoveries.
- Through pastoral care – offering space to listen and support during life events (e.g., grief, anxiety, joy).
- Responding to world events, giving space for collective empathy, prayer, or action.

These moments are valued equally alongside planned opportunities and are often the most impactful for pupils.

Windows, Mirrors, Doors Approach

We embed this model across all spiritual learning and experiences:



Windows

Windows – Looking out at the world with awe, curiosity, and wonder.

Experiences that open children's eyes to beauty, suffering, diversity, and questions of meaning.

Examples: nature walks, visiting speakers, poetry, artwork, and stories from different cultures.



Mirrors

Mirrors – Looking in to reflect on their own thoughts, beliefs, and feelings.

Activities that encourage self-awareness, identity, and emotional literacy.

Examples: journaling, mindfulness, reflective discussions, and prayer.



Doors

Doors – Stepping through into action and response.

Encouraging children to live out values, serve others, and act with compassion and courage.

Examples: charity work, eco initiatives, peer support, and pupil voice opportunities.

Monitoring and Supporting Spirituality

- Staff CPD on spiritual development and reflection.
- Pupil voice used to shape and evaluate spiritual experiences.

-Headteacher and governors regularly review the impact of spiritual provision alongside support from the Equa Mead Church Schools Flourishing Lead.

-Inclusive approach, recognising different starting points, beliefs, and expressions of spirituality.

Conclusion

At St Thomas à Becket, our spirituality strategy aims to nurture children who are thoughtful, compassionate, and open-hearted – rooted in faith and ready to contribute meaningfully to the world. Through both planned and spontaneous encounters, and by looking through windows, mirrors, and doors, we help every child grow in spirit and love.