

BLACK HORSE HILL INFANT SCHOOL



SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

22nd October 2019

Approved by Committee _____

28th November 2019

Approved by Full Governing Body _____

Signed _____(Chair)

Signed _____(Headteacher)

BLACK HORSE HILL INFANT SCHOOL

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY

1. Statement of Principle

The school recognises that the spiritual development of each child is extremely important and that all areas of the curriculum may contribute to the pupils' spiritual development. It deals with what is personal and unique to each individual. It will draw attention to aspects of human nature which may give meaning and purpose to human existence.

2. Aims

Through spiritual development the school will be trying to encourage in pupils, a sense of self that will:-

- a. motivate them to use their talents to the full and to overcome their weaknesses,
- b. equip them to meet life's challenges and cope with life's difficulties,
- c. help them to love and care for others,
- d. enable them to play an active and productive role in the community,
- e. encourage them to develop a natural curiosity and a desire to explore.

3. Meeting the Needs of All Pupils

- a. We shall cater for children of all learning difficulties and/or disabilities and give additional support where necessary.
- b. The school shall respect the children's sex, culture and individuality.
- c. Parents/carers have the right to withdraw their child from Religious education and religious visits. Parents/carers may make a written request to withdraw their child from this part of their spiritual development.

4. Organisation

In order to promote the pupils' spiritual development the school will help by allowing the children to:-

- a. Reflect on themselves, on others, on human capacities and on life's fundamental questions.

This may happen in whole class or group discussions, through a learning activity or a new learning experience.

There will be time to reflect on individual achievements and to give praise and also to discuss ways of improvement.

Time is always available for reflection during school assemblies.

b. Exercise intellectual curiosity

In open-ended enquiry, in testing their beliefs against those of others and in exploring samenesses and differences.

e.g. Early Years and the start of Key Stage 1 - Autumn Term –
Ourselves. How are we the same / different to our friends in our
new class.

c. Experience awe and wonder – to be moved by excellence, something that captures the essence of human experience.

e.g. In the Wednesday Celebration Assembly we celebrate the
achievements of our pupils and strengthen home / community / school
links.

Every year children in every class use the school grounds to experience
the awe and wonder of nature, including the Foundation Stage Outdoor
Area and the Nature Garden.

National / Worldwide human achievements, past and present, are
celebrated during assemblies and through the curriculum.

d. Exercise imagination and intuition

In creative pursuits and in forming ideas and theories in their academic
work and in daily life. We will help the pupils to think things through. The
school will promote a love of learning which will go through life with them.

e. Discuss and debate their insights, beliefs, ideas, emotions, feelings and experiences.

By giving them time and a conducive atmosphere to articulate and
communicate things they believe in.

By encouraging everyone to value their peers' ideas.

f. Engage in prayers and worship

During fortnightly 'Open the Book' assemblies led by the reverend from the
local church children will be invited to join in with a prayer and to sing
songs worshipping God.

During Collective Worship, to increase the children's knowledge of the
central beliefs, ideas and practices of major world religions. e.g. Easter
(Christian), Eid-ul-Fitr (Muslim). Succot (Jewish), Holi (Hindu), Chinese
New Year. The school will provide access to moments of silence in which
the children will be invited to reflect on what has been happening to them.

Each term, the RE/Spiritual/Cultural leadership team will meet consider the opportunities for developing spiritual awareness in the children through assemblies, through the curriculum and on school trips. An assembly file is used by all members of staff and this file keeps a record of all the assemblies that have been used to promote spiritual awareness in a school year.

The school also believes that spiritual development can happen anywhere and everywhere and opportunities to develop spiritual awareness in children, that do arise, will be identified and will be addressed by the staff.

5. **Role of the Team**

- a. To keep abreast of the changes in the subject area through training.
- b. To support the implementation of the school Spiritual Development Policy.
- c. To act as facilitators of knowledge.
- d. To provide support for colleagues and organise training for staff as a whole or for individual members.
- e. To help organise and maintain:-
 - i. A record of the opportunities for spiritual development.
 - ii. Resources - School and Resource Library
- f. To attend Support Group meetings to exchange ideas with other staff and liaise with the R.E. and EQ team.

Mrs S Lucan
September 2019