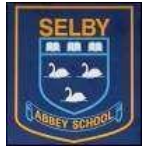


"I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10



As a staff and within our classes we have discussed what spirituality is and what it looks like, sounds like and feels like in our school. While the definition of spirituality is different for everyone, here are some common themes that we have used to create a school definition of spirituality: It is about the journey of learning who you are and who you want to be. It is also about keeping an open mind, questioning current beliefs and trying to understand other people's beliefs. Furthermore, it is also about feeling connected to others and the nature of the world.

**Here are our three key areas for developing spirituality:
Sense of self, sense of others and sense of place**

1. Developing Spirituality through sense of self

- **Assessment for learning and personalised learning.** Through our bespoke curriculum, children develop a strong sense of achievement and can see how they can improve.
- **We are an inclusive school.** All children, including SEN, have high aspirations for themselves. All learning needs are catered for through a range of methods such as different clubs, differentiated work, support from our SEMH team and various teaching strategies.
- **Celebrate achievement.** Children achievements are celebrated in a weekly act of collective worship alongside class times. Children work towards class treats and also work towards acknowledgements in our yearly award ceremony at Selby Abbey, where all children are celebrated.
- **Opportunities for reflection and prayer.** In Collective Worship, RE, PSHE and other curriculum areas, children are given the chance to reflect on who is important, how we can develop as a person and our faith. Every class has a collective worship area, made up with colours from the liturgical calendar that children can visit to reflect. In collective worship, children make links between Christian values, the values of other faiths, teachings in the Bible and how to use these values in everyday life. Members of the clergy regularly lead collective worship to help children make these links. Children are also encouraged and given chance to lead collective worship themselves. All classes have created a prayer book and these prayers are used at key times. Religious Education lessons often give pupils the opportunity to reflect on their own life and think about others.

2. Developing Spirituality through sense of others (positive relationships, understanding others)

- **Children and staff have a very positive relationship.** We promote Christian values such as love, tolerance, respect, forgiveness, in a number of ways such as using the restorative practice with regards to behaviour and our variety of clubs. Staff are also very supportive of each other and wellbeing is developed in school through days out, reducing workload, cards and social events for celebrations or times of need etc.
- **Children explore the issues of right and wrong.** Selby Abbey School guides children with moral choices through collective worship, RE, PSHE, circle time, British Values and other areas of the curriculum.

- **Children develop interest and compassion in the local area and wider world.** Pupils attend key events within the community such as Experience Church events, Singing at the Christmas light's switch on and local care homes in order to support pupils to look beyond themselves.

3. Developing Spirituality through sense of place

- **Distinctive Environment.** Classrooms and outdoor areas in school promote spirituality and our pupil's successes. The peace garden is an area where children can reflect and think about our Christian values which are displayed.
- There is also a collective worship area in the main hall which follows the same liturgical colours and has religious artefacts and symbols on such as the cross, candles and Bible. Family service posters for the Abbey are displayed around the school along with poster for specific celebrations at the Abbey. The main entrance has a welcoming stained glass window display on all of the Christian values which pupils have helped contribute to. Furthermore there are many displays throughout the school which link to our Christian values and ethos.
- **Close links with the Church.** In partnership with John Weetman, we have developed a strong link to Selby Abbey through a number of ways such as our Harvest Festival, Easter Service, Christmas Carol Concert and our regular clergy led collective worship.

Below is a poster created by our Church Ambassadors to show what they believe spirituality looks like at Selby Abbey School; a mixture of collective worship, sharing their thoughts, visiting the Peace Garden, listening to and creating music, mediation, praying and asking big questions.

