

Let's talk about...

Spirituality



This booklet provides a range of questions to ask pupils, staff and leaders in your school.

We believe that by asking the right questions, you will gain a better picture of spirituality in your school and that this will provide a springboard for continuing improvement.

Introduction

Have a look at the questions we have suggested but please feel free to select which questions to use and to add, adapt or re-word questions as appropriate. The questions can be adapted for use in all schools but are targeted at Church of England primary schools.



The 2023 SIAMS framework sets out the expectation for church schools to meet the 'spiritual needs of all learners' through the curriculum. Within their Inspection Questions (IQs), they seek to discover...

- IQ2 "How is spiritual development an intrinsic part of the curriculum?"
- IQ3 asks, "How is collective worship enabling pupils and adults to flourish spiritually?"
 - and furthermore explores, "How do the theologically rooted Christian vision and the Anglican foundation of the school shape worship and spirituality in the school?"
 - and asks, "What do pupils and adults understand to be the meaning of spirituality? How does this enhance and enrich collective worship and individuals' spiritual development?"

More information can be found here:

<https://www.churchofengland.org/about/education-and-schools/church-schools-and-academies/siams-inspections>

PUPILS

1. What do you think spirituality means?
2. Some people believe in God, some people don't, and others are not sure. What do you think?
3. Do you think prayer works?
4. Can you think about times in school when you learnt about yourself, others and/or the world?
5. What is important to you and why?
6. Do you like times of quiet and stillness? How might they help us? Do you have times of quiet in school and/or home?
7. Tell me about a time in school you were curious or used your imagination.
8. What are some of the things you are grateful for? Why do you think it is important to be grateful?
9. What makes you unique?
10. Can you tell me about a time you helped someone else?
11. Who in your life is really important to you?
12. How are you different from one of your friends?
13. What do you do when you fall out with a friend or have a disagreement?
14. What things in the world are beautiful or make you say 'WOW'?
15. Why is it important for us to look after our world?



STAFF



1. What is your understanding of spirituality?
2. How do you ensure children grow spiritually?
3. Tell me about a time when you planned an opportunity for children to grow spiritually?
4. How are children encouraged to ask questions and be curious?
5. How well can children relate to each other?
6. How are children encouraged to develop a sense of awe and wonder about the natural world?
7. How do times of collective worship enhance your own spiritual development?

HEADTEACHER AND LEADERS



1. What is your understanding of spirituality?
2. How does the school's Christian vision provide opportunities to meet the spiritual needs of learners?
3. How does the Christian vision shape worship and spirituality in the school?
4. How does an awareness of spirituality permeate school life?
5. What is the impact of this on the whole school community?
6. How are staff inducted and supported so that they have a shared understanding of spirituality?