**Respect** *For All* | **Ambitious** *In Aspirations* | **Bold** *In Actions*

"...with God all things are possible" Matthew (19:26)

# St George's C of E Primary School

# Christian Distinctiveness Handbook

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# Our Christian Values

We are a welcoming and caring Christian school where everyone can learn and grow as part of God's family.

At St George's we believe that our school provides the foundation and opportunities for all children to become well rounded and capable individual members of a society which is continually evolving and developing.

When children leave St. George's, we want them to be equipped with the skills to be independent learners and thinkers with a range of skills and talents that enable them to succeed at the next stage of their education journey and in life. By the time learners have left, they will have mastered a range of both procedural knowledge (skills) and factual knowledge. Our curriculum is customised to meet the local needs of our learners.

We can only do this, by providing an environment for learning in which all children are able to maximise their potential academically, socially, physically, emotionally and spiritually.

At St George's our aims are:-

- To provide a Christian education where children learn the love of God, and to have respect and dignity for other faiths, beliefs and cultures.
- To provide a curriculum that is rich and challenging, where children experience the opportunity to learn in a wide range of contexts.
- To provide a sequential curriculum that builds on prior learning which enriches and challenges children and gives them the experiences and opportunities to learn in a wide range of context.
- To develop active citizens who are able to positively contribute to fundamentals of British values and equality for all.
- To provide an environment in which the dignity of every child is recognised and developed; and to provide the full potential of each child through a curriculum which develops spiritual, academic, social and emotional growth guided through our vision of:

**'Respect for all, Ambitious in aspirations, Bold in actions.'**

# Christian Values Statement

## '...with God all things are possible.' Matthew (19:26)

St George's is a caring, family school with Christian values at our core. We want our staff, families and children to encourage, inspire, believe and achieve whilst living out our Christian values:

**Respect**: respect for all people

**Ambitious**: academically and in self-growth

**Bold**: bold in improving our bodies our minds and lives of others.

Here at St George's, we encourage pupils to understand and promote our school Christian values. We promote Christian values through the celebrations such as Christmas, Easter and Harvest and through prayer and reflection we also support children on their own faith journey.

# Worship Yearly Planner

Worship planner - "a tree is known by its fruit" Matthew 12.33

| Autumn Term 1 | Autumn Term 2 | Spring Term 1 | Spring Term 2 | Summer Term 1 | Summer Term 2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Thankfulness (Harvest) | Trust (Christmas) | Perseverance (Lent) | Friendship (Easter) | Service (Pentecost) | Truthfulness (Trinity) |
| Generosity (Harvest) | Compassion (Christmas | Courage (Lent) | Forgiveness (Easter) | Justice (Bold in action) | Respect (Trinity) |

# Whole School Worship

At St George's we aim to make our Worship – inspirational, inclusive and invitational. We follow the NATRE scheme of work for RE and this we bespoke so that it is mirrored in whole school worship. Each half term/term we will have a different theme that will be displayed around the school and in each classroom. Our whole school worship will take one year to complete. This is to ensure that our values and key elements of Christianity are fully embedded with the pupils of St George's. All worship will follow an order of service and will include songs, reflection and prayer. The whole school worship will focus on teachings of the Bible. Prayers and worship should be led by a mixture of SLT, the local Reverend, visitors, staff and our children. The school will follow the liturgical calendar for key Christian celebrations. We have whole school worship focusing on the following:

- Monday: School Worship in KS1 hall led by staff.
- Tuesday: Gospel worship
- Wednesday: Singing worship
- Thursday: No outsiders
- Friday: Celebration Worship in church

Our local Reverend is: we are currently in an interregnum due to the retirement of the last incumbent

The Liturgical Calendar

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Ordinary Time | 16 June 2019 – 23 Nov 2019 | Green |
| Christ the King | 24 Nov 2019 – 30 Nov 2019 | White |
| Advent | 1 Dec 2019 – 24 Dec 2019 | Purple |
| Christmas & Epiphany | 25 Dec 2019 – 2 Feb 2020 | White or Gold |
| After Epiphany | 3 Feb 2020 – 25 Feb 2020 | Green |
| Lent | 26 Feb 2020 – 10 April 2020 | Purple |
| Eastertide | 11 April 2020 – 30 May 2020 | White or Gold |
| Pentecost | 31 May 2020 | Red |
| Ordinary time | 7 June 2020 – 21 Nov 2020 | Green |
| Christ the King | 22 Nov 2020 – 28 Nov 2020 | White |
| Saints Days | St David – March 1, St Patrick – March 17, St George - April 23, St Andrew - Nov 30 | Red |

# Whole School

# Order of Worship at St George's Primary School

Worship Table

- Runner or cloth to reflect the colour of the season of the Church year
- Bible
- When appropriate an artefact or object suggesting the theme or content of the worship

Lighting of the candle

When all of the pupils have gathered the candle(s) are lit to signal the start of worship.

Welcome

We greet each other with one of the Christian greetings:

- Anglican Greetings to be used at the start Collective Worship

    - The Lord is Here **His Spirit is with us**
    - The Lord be with you **and also with you**
    - Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you**
    - This is the day that the Lord has made
      **Let us rejoice and be glad in it**
    - *(From Easter day to Pentecost)*
      Alleluia. Christ is risen.
      **He is risen indeed. Alleluia**

Learning

Teaching of the key message through the use of drama, visual images, storytelling, puppetry or poetry.

Reflecting

The reflecting element encourages everyone to consider how the Bible story or stimulus has resonated with or challenged them.

Hymn

Pupils will sing together a traditional hymn or Christian song linked with the half termly Christian Value theme or daily theme.

Responding

Responding provides an opportunity to consider how God might be challenging those present in the worship to "step out" and play their part in making a difference in the works either as individuals or as part of the whole school community.

Dismissal

Collective worship is ended with one of the following:

.

- Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
  **In the name of Christ Amen**
- Go in the peace of Christ **Thanks be to God**
- Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God**
- *(From Easter day to Pentecost)*
  Go in the peace of Christ Alleluia, alleluia
  **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Extinguishing of the candle

When the act of Worship is over the candle will be extinguished.

Flip charts are written by staff and are to be shared on the shared area to ensure consistency across the Key Stages.

Each phase has a Collective worship scrap book which allows the children to reflect on what they have heard in Collective worship and share with others. We want the messages discussed to go out into the life of the school. We want it to affect the staff and children's lives for the better. These books are also a lovely way of sharing with the children past Collective worships and reminding ourselves of past teaching .

Daily Prayer

As well as in class worship, we also have daily prayers that are said in class. These prayers are led by the class teacher and the members of the worship group. The following prayers are said at these times of the day:

**Lunchtime Prayer:** Said before lunch

**Home Time Prayer:** Said at the end of the day

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven

Hallowed be your name

Your kingdom come

Your will be done

On earth as it is in heaven

Give us today our daily bread

Forgive us our sins

As we forgive those who sin against us

Lead us not into temptation
But deliver us from evil
For the kingdom, the power
And the glory are yours
Now and forever
Amen

## The School Prayer

Our Father,
We praise you for your love.
Thank you for our school.
Help us to make it a safe and happy place
And to be kind and caring towards one another.
Help us in our work and play.
In Jesus' name,
Amen.

## Lunchtime Prayer

For what we are about to receive,

May the Lord make us truly thankful,

Amen

## End of day prayer

Dear God
Now the busy day is done
Jesus bless us everyone
Keep us safely through the night
until we see the morning light
In Jesus name
Amen

## Worship Group

The Worship group is made up of 2 pupils from most classes who asked to be members of the group. They meet every weekly with the RE Lead. The role of the Worship group is to support school with whole school worship and in class worship. Make the worship area look attractive and inspiring. Worship group pupils are expected to read school prayers and begin worship by lighting the class candles. Singing "This is the day "leading the trinity prayer, lighting candles and offering a Christian greeting.

# Worship Area

Every classroom has a worship area. Each worship area looks similar with carefully chosen items on it.

The worship area must have the following items on it:

- Bible
- Cross
- Candle
- The theme displayed
- Current Christian Values poster and quote displayed
- Prayer box
- Big question
- Activities
- Prayer paper

Pupils are encouraged to use the worship areas in class to reflect on the themes and stories from worship, to answer key questions on display, to participate in activities provided or to write prayers for the prayer tree. Pupils are encouraged to use this space as often as they like during the school day.

| Classes | Bibles |
|---|---|
| Reception | The Beginners Bible |
| Year 1 & 2 | The Beginners Bible<br>My very First Bible |
| Year 3 & 4 | The Lion First Bible<br>The Lion Storyteller Bible<br>The Lion Illustrated Children's Bible |
| Year 5 & 6 | The Lion children's Bible<br>Good News Bible |

# Pupil Spirituality

At St George's we have a moral responsibility to ensure we are providing for the pupil's spirituality in school. This is reflected through the whole school and in class worship as well as through the school prayer tree. As a school we have adopted the mirrors , windows and door model .We have a spirituality policy and have highlighted times in the curriculum that lend themselves to spiritual development. At the end of each half terms theme in collective worship the children discuss the theme and reflect on it and its impact using the mirrors windows and doors model.

Prayer Tree

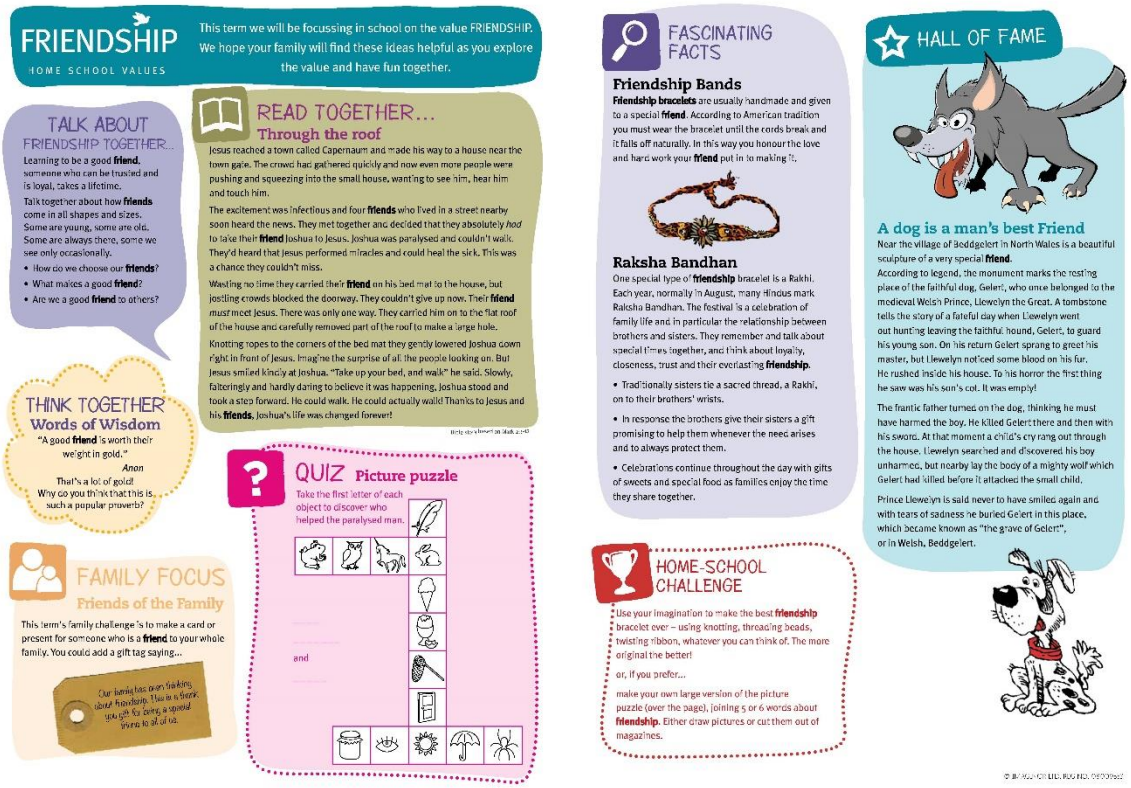
In the KS2 downstairs corridor we have the prayer tree. Pupils are encouraged to reflect on the themes and stories covered in whole school worship and asked to write their own thoughtful and reflective prayers. Prayers are written on leaves and then these prayers are then placed on the prayer tree. During whole school worship prayers form the prayer tree may be chosen to read out to the school as part of worship. Staff are also encouraged to write their own prayers to share with the pupils.

# Governors

The Governors are made up of different stake holders from our school, Church and community. One of the purposes of the Governors is to monitor and evaluate the provision for worship and R.E in school and ensure the school are promoting our Christian values. The governors are welcomed into school on a regular basis to share worship, look at RE books and monitor RE prayer areas. The RE lead talks to the governors regularly about RE action plan and plans for the future.

# Parental Involvement

At the beginning of every half term we inform the parents of our half term theme on Dojos and often include a sheet of ideas and texts which children and their parents can do at home to supplement their learning. Parents are invited to our Harvest, Easter, Christingle, Christmas and leavers worship service. Photographs of other acts of worship are also posted on to school Dojo site. Parents are also warmly invited to our celebration worships on Fridays in church




# Teaching and Learning

As a Church school R.E has as much importance in the school curriculum as English and Maths. R.E is taught as a discreet subject and is taught once a week for at least an hour in every class from EYFS to Year 6. Our R.E curriculum has at its base Christian theology but also covers other religions and none religions. The children can then use their deep knowledge of Christian teachings to compare and contrast a variety of religions. By knowing what symbols, artefacts, scared texts and places of worship are to Christians they are able to appreciate another's faith. Planning and resources for the topics are saved on to the school server.

Marking and feedback

Marking and feedback given to pupils must be to the same quality as we would see in English or Maths books (see Feedback Policy). Work should be marked to the learning intention and opportunities should be given to pupils to reflect on their learning with key questions. Pupils should respond to this in purple pen.

R.E Displays

Every class in school must have an R.E display either inside or outside of the classroom. R.E displays in school should be topic based. These displays should be used as a working wall, where work gets added to the display regularly. The display should be interactive with key questions for pupils to think about. Pupils should add work to the display as and when is necessary.

# R.E Scheme of Work

| | Autumn 1 | Autumn 2 | Spring 1 | Spring 2 | Summer 1 | Summer 2 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Reception | F1Which stories are special and why? | F2 Which people are special and why? | F3 Which places are special and why? | F4 What times are special and why? | F5 Where do we belong? | F6 What is special about our world? |
| KS1 A | What is the good news Christians say Jesus brings? | What is the good news Christians say Jesus brings? | Who is a Muslim and how do they love?<br><br>Fairtrade week – chocolate | Why does Easter matter to Christians? | Who is a Muslim and how do they live? | What makes some places sacred to believers? |
| KS1 B | Who do Christians say made the world? | Why does Christmas matter to Christians? | Who is Jewish and how do they live? | What do Christians believe God is like? | What does it mean to belong to a faith community? | How should we care for others and the world and why does it matter? |
| LK2 A | What kind of world did Jesus want? | When Jesus left; what was the impact of Pentecost? | What do Hindus believe God is like? (Hindus) | Why do Christians call the day Jesus dies 'Good Friday?'(salvation) | What does it mean to be Hindu in Britain today? | How and why do people mark the significant events of life? (thematic) |
| LKS2 B | What is like for someone to follow God? (people of God) | What is the 'Trinity' and why is it important? (Incarnation/God | How do festivals and worship show what matters to a Muslim? | How do festivals and family life show what matters to Jewish people? | What do Christians learn from the Creation story? (Creation/Fall) | How and why do people try to make the world a better place? |

| | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1-week Christmas | (Islam)<br>Fairtrade - tea | (Judaism)<br>Easter 1 week - link with Jewish celebration of Passover - last supper | | |
| UKS2 A | Christians and how to live; What would Jesus do? | Why do Christians believe that Jesus was the Messiah? | Why do Hindus want to be good?<br><br>Fairtrade week | What difference does the Resurrection make to Christians? | For Christians what kind of King was Jesus? | Why do some people believe in God and some people do not? |
| UKS2 B | What does it mean if Christians believe God is Holy and Loving? (God) | What does it mean to be a Muslim in Britain today? (Islam | Why is the Torah so important to Jewish people? (Judaism)<br><br>Fairtrade week | Creation and science: Confliction or Complimentary? (Creation/Fall) | How can following God bring freedom and justice? People of God) | What matters most to Humanists and Christians? |

# Assessment

Assessment is recorded against the end of key stage expectations. Children will complete a "Cold" task at the start of every unit and complete a reflection task at the end . They will also complete a NATRE assessment

**End of Key Stage Expectations**

| By the end of Key Stage 1 children are expected to: |
|---|
| • talk about God as creator of the world who loves us. |
| • know that God is three in one, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. |
| • be able to retell both the nativity and Easter stories. |
| • use religious words to talk about the celebrations of Christmas, Easter and Pentecost. |
| • know that Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God who died on the cross and rose again. |
| • know that Jesus had 12 special friends called disciples. |
| • know that the Bible is our holy book and it contains God's big story, the salvation plan. |
| • be able to retell stories of Jesus' miracles. |
| • have visited a church and confidently talk about their experience and what they have learnt. |
| • have had opportunity to ask reflective questions that wonder about Christian practice, values and beliefs. |
| • be able to give examples of how Christians, put their beliefs into action. |
| • know the names and significance of holy books from other faiths. |
| • know the places where people of other faiths worship. |
| • be developing a sense of their own values and the values of others. |
| • have experienced taking part in the celebration of Harvest Festival. |

| By the end of Key Stage 2 children are expected to: |
| --- |
| • know that God is three in one, Father, Son and Holy Spirit – the Trinity. |
| • know that in the beginning God created everything and it was good. People spoilt the environment and their relationship with God. This is known as the Fall. |
| • know that Christians believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Saviour who came to rescue all people and restore their relationship with God. |
| • know that Christians believe Jesus is the Son of God who died on the cross, rose again and is alive with us today. |
| • know that Christians believe that Jesus will come again and Earth and Heaven will be transformed to be as God intended (the Kingdom of God). |
| • Christians try to put the teaching of Jesus, the good news, into practice in their everyday lives and build God's Kingdom on earth as best they can. |
| • know that Pentecost was the start of the church. |
| • know that Christians believe that the Holy Spirit is at work in their lives today. |
| • know that Christianity is a worldwide multi-cultural faith. |
| • know that prayer is an important part of the life of a believer and explain why. |
| • know the names and stories of at least 3 people in the past and present times who have been called by God to do his work and speak his word. |
| • describe the impact responding to God's call has on a believer's life. |
| • use developing religious vocabulary to talk about the impact religion has on believers' lives. |
| • be able to make comparisons and identify the similarities and differences between the rules for living in Christianity and two other world faiths. |
| • ask important questions about religion and belief that improves their learning. |
| • experience a visit to a place of worship other than a church. |

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|---|
| • talk knowledgeably about places of worship, the names and features of buildings and the worship that takes place there. |
| • retell in detail the stories of Christmas and Easter describing core Christian beliefs and concepts. |
| • connect Christian practices, values and beliefs to events and teaching in the Bible. |
| • be able to describe and show understanding of the links between the teachings in other Holy Books and the behaviour of the believers. |
| • be able to express and explain their own opinions on issues they have discussed. |
| • use an increasingly wide religious vocabulary to talk about the meaning of rites of passage and pilgrimage experienced by believers as they journey through life. |
| • describe what they think motivates people of faith and explain what inspires and influences them personally. |
| • ask and suggest answers to questions that show their understanding of distinctive beliefs about God across three world religions. |
| • know and be able to talk about the links between Christianity and Judaism. |
| • describe the similarities and differences within and between Christian denominations with particular reference to the Eucharist. |

# Monitoring

As part of the yearly monitoring cycle, monitoring of R.E and Worship is regularly included in the whole school cycle. Members of the SLT and the Governors conduct the monitoring of R.E and Worship in school. One of the main purposes of the Governors is to ensure that the Christian Values of the school are promoted and underpin everything. Throughout the year we will monitor:

- R.E books
- R.E displays
- R.E Lesson Observations
- Whole School Worship
- In class worship
- Daily prayers
- Pupil voice
- Staff voice
- Parental voice
- R.E Assessment

Regular feedback is given to staff and pupils to ensure the progression of R.E and worship at school.

Linked Documents:

- R.E monitoring Cycle
- R.E lesson observation form
- R.E book Scrutiny form
- Worship monitoring form