



## Trinity Academy Leeds

<b>Policy:</b>	Spirituality Policy
<b>Date of review:</b>	March 2021
<b>Date of next review:</b>	March 2022
<b>Lead professional:</b>	Assistant Principal Inclusion and Intervention
<b>Status:</b>	Non-Statutory

## **What is our unique understanding of spirituality?**

At Trinity Academy Leeds, we believe that spirituality concerns a person's relationship with themselves, with others, with the 'other' (this could be a God of their choice) and with the world.

We also believe that it is vital that all of the adults in the academy also see the need to develop their own spirituality for their own wellbeing, and so that they can effectively support and help our students and each other.

The four elements of spirituality consist of:

### **Self**

- Awareness of feelings; ability to reflect and express
- Awareness of our uniqueness; happiness with who we are
- Gratitude for the things we have and the person we are
- Exploration of personal faith
- Development of imagination and creativity.

### **Others**

- Empathy and understanding; respect, tolerance
- To love and be loved (loving your neighbour)
- Making a difference.

### **Encountering/experiencing God (having a sense of what lies beyond the material/physical)**

- Ability to formulate and discuss the 'Big Questions' (e.g. about life, death, suffering, nature of God)
- Opportunities for prayer, connecting with God.

### **The World**

- Making sense of the world
- Developing a sense of awe and wonder
- Enjoying the miracles of everyday life
- Taking time for what really matters
- Appreciating beauty in art, music, nature. Having cultural capital.

### **We believe that spiritually developed students:**

- Love and accept themselves and enjoy good relationships with each other
- Take an interest and delight in the world around them
- Are open to what lies beyond the material (this may manifest itself in faith/belief in God)
- Are able to express and understand feelings, they have a strong moral sense and a love of what is good
- Are able to enjoy quiet and stillness, they possess an active imagination, and show joy in creativity and discovering new skills.

## To develop a strong sense of spirituality in all of our students, we aim to:

- Have regular time in the day for quiet and reflection
- Provide many opportunities for creativity and using the imagination
- Value relaxation opportunities for all students
- Opportunities for students to express gratitude through weekly appreciations
- Provide frequent opportunities for students to explore, express and share their feelings
- Constantly reaffirm the importance of relationships. How we talk to and relate with each other is fundamental
- Provide opportunities to express awe and wonder, appreciate beauty in all its forms, and appreciate the connections and unity in the world
- Encourage each other to admit mistakes and to apologise when necessary. Recognising and owning up to faults is an important healing and redemptive process.
- Encourage students to show kindness, care and compassion, and to express these in practical ways. (e.g. how we treat each other every day; charitable works; looking after our environment)
- Explore the 'Big Questions' through Curriculum Time
- Read often to children through daily DEAR session and give them opportunities to discuss and reflect.
  - Take part in Shine Projects to celebrate their beliefs and self
  - Take part in weekly Inspire assemblies based upon the Core Values and stories of inspirational role models

## Daily Act of Reflection

Whenever students meet, be it with their form tutor, subject teacher or in assembly, it ends with a moment of silent reflection.

## Developing the Student Profile

Students at Trinity Academy Leeds are growing to be :	
<b>Empathetic</b> - We recognise the importance of understanding the feelings and experiences of others	Compassionate towards others near and far, and loving by their just actions and forgiving words
<b>Respectful</b> -We value each member of community, showing regard for others and celebrating difference.	Students will grow to be learned finding good in all things and become wise in the way they use their learning for the common good
<b>Honesty</b> -We understand that truthfulness and integrity are key to building a strong community.	Eloquent and truthful in what they say of themselves, the relations between people, and the world

<b>Responsibility</b> -We are committed to caring for ourselves, our community and the world around us.	Intentional in the way that they live and use the earth's resources, guided by their conscience and prophetic in the example they set to others
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## **Prayer Spaces**

During the year students and staff will have opportunities for prayer spaces within our Student Support areas.

## **Ethos Group (staff and students)**

The Staff Ethos group consists of three members of staff and the student group is represented by all year groups. In both groups the members are interested in the spiritual and faith development of the school. The aims of the teams are:

- To empower young people to live with moral purpose in the world today.
- To draw young people into responsible participation in the life of the community
- To foster the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person
- To raise the self-esteem of young people and help develop the spiritual life of young people, particularly in regard to being able to express their feelings
- To help young people explore spirituality and faith and develop capacities for independent and critical thought including encouraging the setting apart of moments for stillness and reflection
- Provide learning material and situations that encourage moral responses and obligations towards other people and promote racial, religious and other forms of harmony
- To help students recognise and respect the diversity of the different cultures represented in the school and wider community