St Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Multi Academy Trust

SIAMS outstanding

Our Christian Vision

"Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another." John 13:34

Love – We show love and care for everyone.
Opportunity – Our inclusive love ensures that all children have opportunities to live life to the full.
Values – Our Christian values give children the character and strength to live well and make a difference.
Education –Through our inclusive, loving care, all children flourish.

Unconditional love underpins all we do at St Mary's Church of England Primary School. We value and embrace the individuality of every child as they discover, learn and flourish in a place of security and love.

Spirituality is developed through our school's Christian vision because of the loving, inclusive relationships it encourages. Our Christian vision is about helping children and adults to understand their place in the world and within a loving community. In the context of our vision, we discover ourselves as well as the world around us and we find purpose in striving to make a difference in the world.

Spirituality

at St Mary's C of E Primary School

What is spirituality?

At St Mary's C of E Primary School, we understand spirituality as our relationship with both our inner-life and something bigger, beyond ourselves. It relates to our capacity to wonder at and respond to the world around us while we search for meaning and purpose in our lives. We acknowledge this is complex, so the school must actively promote spiritual development and personal growth.

At St Mary's C of E Primary School, we develop a shared understanding of spirituality and spiritual development by describing the journey:
From experience (windows)

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Through reflection (mirrors)

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To growth, transformation and action (doors)



Windows
Children must have opportunities to **experience** the world around them and develop their sense of awe and wonder. Children must explore and be curious.

How?
Throughout the curriculum – stories, artefacts, photos, videos, music, works of art, texts…but mostly through real and lived experiences.

Language used?
See, experience, encounter, aware, opportunity, mindfulness, wonder, wow!



Mirrors
Children must have opportunities to **reflect** on and learn from their experiences. They need to consider life's 'big questions' and have the time and space to **think**. When they 'see themselves', children will develop their 'inner life'.

How?
Throughout the curriculum – high quality learning and worship include times when children explore their thoughts and feelings and consider those of others. There are speaking and listening activities and opportunities to think, articulate discuss and share.

Language used?
Think, reflect, consider, explore, learn from, answer, share



Doors
As well as seeing the world and reflecting on these experiences, children must have opportunities to *respond*. This is when children take what they have learned and actually **do** something creative or constructive. They apply their thoughts and ideas and put them into action. They will be transformed and make a change in the world.

How?
Raising awareness and advocating for others' needs. Responding to local, national or global events and needs. Children may raise awareness of issues or undertake fundraising activities.

Language used?
Do, act, change, transform, grow, advocate, create, write