



SPIRITUALITY POLICY

2024-2026

Responsible member of staff: Gabriella Burchell

Review: March 2024

1. Introduction

At Alton School we welcome pupils and families of all faiths and indeed none. Our values, based on Catholic faith, encourage the pupils to be caring and respectful of each other.

Parents have the right to withdraw their child from acts of collective worship. If parents choose to do this, parents will have to provide supervision of their children during this time, as the School is unable to release members of staff to supervise the children.

2. Aims and objectives

The aims of our Spirituality Policy are:

- To make prayer, worship and liturgy real spiritual and educational experiences
- To develop the faith of each individual in the School community
- To encourage a sense of God's presence permeating the life of the School
- To encompass in the pupils an awareness of our response to the world around us – and to God
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3. Procedures

Opportunities are provided for each member of the school community to take part in prayer and worship. Pupils and staff will endeavour to achieve this by:

- Gathering together for acts of worship through our assembly programmes.
- Praying together as a staff and in class/year/tutor groups.
- Celebrating Mass as a School community. We welcome governors, sisters, former staff and support staff to join our worship. Music, singing, prayers, readings and offertory will be led by pupils.
- Celebrating other liturgies such as Harvest Festival, Remembrance Day, Advent, Christmas services, Ash Wednesday, Lent, Our Lady of Providence Feast Day Mass, Easter services, Pentecost and Memorial Masses.
- Giving opportunities for quiet reflection/meditation in the Chapel or Religious Studies classroom.
- Through our Retreat Day and RE Department visits as well as the opportunity for spiritual reflection on other residential visits e.g. Battlefields and Canterbury.
- Developing caring and trusting relationships with other people, and a loving relationship with God.
- Sympathising and empathising with others and responding accordingly.
- Valuing themselves, other people and the environment.
- Seeking to maintain relationships with others and to be able to forgive and be forgiven.
- Developing a sense of wonder, awe, mystery and joy.
- Developing an appreciation of the intangible – for example, beauty, truth, love, goodness, order as well as a sense of mystery.
- Enabling pupils of all ages to relate to the wider questions of life within their comprehension.
- Through curricular subjects as they point their own subject towards the larger questions
- Dealing fairly and justly with any pupil who transgresses rules and hurts others, including the opportunity to make meaningful amends.
- Linking our fundraising events in response to the needs of others.