



Ashton St. Peter's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development Policy

Ratified in March 2026

Update in March 2027

At Ashton St. Peter's C of E VA Primary School, we offer an education based on Christian principles and we believe strongly in the partnership between staff, pupils, parents, governors, clergy and our local community. The spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of our children is an important part of this partnership. It underpins all aspects of life at Ashton St. Peter's C of E VA, all curriculum areas and provides a solid foundation for the future.

Guided by the teaching of the Bible and inspired by the example of St Peter, we seek to help every child discover the keys to life and learning. These keys shape our behaviour, relationships and attitudes each day.

We nurture in our pupils:

The Key of Appreciation - recognising God's gifts, showing gratitude, and valuing the efforts of others.

The Key of Love - caring for others with kindness, compassion and patience, reflecting Christ's love in our words and actions.

The Key of Positivity - approaching challenges with hope, courage and perseverance, trusting in God's guidance.

The Key of Forgiveness - seeking reconciliation, showing mercy and learning to forgive as we have been forgiven.

The Key of Honesty - speaking truthfully, acting with integrity and taking responsibility for our choices.

The Key of Respect - treating everyone as made in God's image, valuing differences and building a peaceful community.

Through worship, teaching, and daily school life, we help children practise these virtues so they may grow into thoughtful, resilient and compassionate Christian citizens, ready to unlock their God-given potential.

Spiritual Development

Spiritual development is central to our school life and is rooted in the teaching of the Bible and the example of Jesus Christ. We aim to nurture each child's relationship with God, their understanding of themselves, and their appreciation of the world around them.

We promote spiritual development by:

- Encouraging self-respect and the growth of each child's unique identity as a person created and loved by God.
- Developing a sense of awe and wonder about God's creation and the beauty of the world around us.
- Supporting children in forming personal values, including understanding and exploring religious beliefs.
- Recognising and valuing the dignity and worth of every individual.
- Building positive, loving relationships by following the example of Jesus.
- Helping pupils become aware of their feelings and emotions, and express them appropriately.
- Fostering curiosity, encouraging questions, and nurturing a love of learning.
- Providing opportunities for creativity and expression through art, music, literature and crafts.
- Offering daily opportunities for prayer, reflection and worship.
- Teaching biblical principles and encouraging children to apply them in daily life.



- Helping pupils explore questions of faith, meaning and purpose.
- Encouraging gratitude, forgiveness and trust in God.

Through these experiences, we seek to help every child grow spiritually, developing a strong sense of purpose, hope and belonging, and learning to live with faith, compassion and wisdom.

Moral Development

Moral development at our school is rooted in the teachings of Jesus Christ and guided by the principles of the Bible. We aim to help children understand right and wrong, develop integrity, and make thoughtful choices based on Christian values.

We promote moral development by:

- Learning from the teachings and example of Jesus.
- Promoting positive values such as honesty, kindness, respect, self-discipline, reliability and a willingness to help others.
- Encouraging pupils to follow and understand our class and school rules as part of living well together.
- Providing a strong foundation on which pupils can make decisions and build their lives through Christian beliefs and values.
- Supporting pupils in making personal choices that reflect our Christian ethos.
- Developing a clear understanding of right and wrong and encouraging a willingness to act accordingly.
- Implementing a behaviour policy that values each individual, respects different opinions and helps pupils resolve conflicts peacefully.
- Working in partnership with families through a shared commitment to our Home-School Agreement.

Through these experiences, pupils grow in conscience, responsibility and compassion, learning to act with honesty and courage in their daily lives.

Social Development

Social development at our school is shaped by our Christian ethos and the teaching of the Bible. We aim to prepare pupils to live responsibly, compassionately and confidently within both our school family and the wider world.

We promote social development by:

- Developing an understanding of what it means to live within a caring and supportive Christian community.
- Supporting pupils in building a secure sense of identity within a multicultural and multi-faith society.
- Providing opportunities for children to work independently, in pairs and in groups, enabling them to lead, show initiative and cooperate with others.
- Ensuring the inclusion and active involvement of all pupils in every aspect of school life.
- Modelling positive relationships, with staff demonstrating exemplary behaviour in how we treat others and how we expect to be treated.
- Creating opportunities for children to engage with a range of people within the school community, including teaching staff, support staff, work experience trainees, senior citizens and friends of the school.



Through these experiences, pupils learn respect, teamwork, leadership and service. They develop the confidence and skills needed to contribute positively to society, reflecting Christian values in their relationships and actions.

Cultural Development

Cultural development in our school reflects our Christian foundation and our commitment to valuing diversity as part of God's world. Guided by the teaching of the Bible, we help pupils appreciate their own heritage while respecting the traditions and beliefs of others.

We promote cultural development by:

- Teaching an understanding of Christianity as a worldwide, multicultural faith.
- Helping pupils develop knowledge and understanding of the cultural context of their own lives and communities.
- Encouraging learning about other faiths and cultures with respect, curiosity and openness.
- Providing opportunities for pupils from different faiths and cultures within our school community to share their beliefs and customs.
- Enriching pupils' experiences through exposure to a variety of foods, music, art, literature and traditions from both their own culture and others.

Through these experiences, pupils grow in understanding, empathy and respect, learning to live harmoniously in a diverse society while remaining confident in their own identity and values.

Review Procedures

The School's policy will be reviewed when:

- Every year in March
- The School wishes to review the policy.
- If amendments are required by the LA

Ratified by:

Date: March 2026

Headteacher

