

# Spiritual, Moral, Social and Cultural Development



Archbishop Cranmer  
C of E Primary  
Academy

## Enhancing Children's Spiritual Development at Archbishop Cranmer C of E Academy

The spiritual development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people's faiths, feelings and values;
- Sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning and taking care of themselves, others and the world around them;
- Use of imagination and creativity in their learning;
- Willingness to reflect on their experiences.

At Archbishop Cranmer, children are encouraged to think deeply and reflect on their own religious beliefs as well as those of other faiths. Our classroom displays and reflection areas present and echo the importance we place upon Religious Education within our curriculum. Each classroom has space for a designated Reflection Area in which the children regularly access, engaging with the interactive aspects integrated within the displays. Each classroom also poses 'big questions', not only for children to ponder over but also to encourage pupils to pose big questions of their own. This develops pupil imagination and fascination in the world we live in, and offers opportunities for reflection and debate over potential answers.



We encourage children to learn both from and about a range of world religions and involve our community as much as possible. Alongside celebrating Christian festivals, we also acknowledge other religious festivals, such as Diwali, Hanukkah and Eid. Pupils learn about such festivals through assemblies, their RE lessons and cross-phase immersion days. Pupils engage with religious artefacts such as kiddush cups, Challah cover and candlesticks when learning about Shabbat and trying on authentic Indian saris when learning about Diwali celebrations. We also take children to places of worship from a range of faiths in order to help them gain a deeper understanding of these religions. For example, as part of our Key

Stage 1 RE curriculum, the pupils visit Nottingham Liberal Synagogue to find out more about the Jewish faith and their place of worship.



Our children are given time to pray when they want to talk with God, simply want to say thank you, or take time to reflect. Each classroom has a designated, interactive reflection area. Prayer also forms part of our daily routine at Archbishop Cranmer, where our school prayer is read during daily acts of collective worship; children are asked to share a prayer before lunchtime in our classrooms; and children have reflection time at the end of each day. Each year we take part in Thy Kingdom Come's Global Wave of Prayer, sharing our reflections and prayers with the world.



Annual events and celebrations such as the Key Stage One and Foundation Nativity Performance and Key Stage Two Carol Service allow the children to reflect upon moments of awe and wonder.



We also consider the feelings and challenges faced by others, both locally and around the world. As a school community, we support local and world-wide charities such as Toilet Twinning where our Pupil Parliament successfully raised funds to twin with two toilets in Uganda. Each class supports an individual charity, chosen for by the children where fundraising initiatives are planned and delivered by the children. We also support national charities, such as Children in Need; Sport Relief; British Heart Foundation and Young Minds through annual events organised and led by our Pupil Parliament. Each year we support Newark Women's Refuge through our Harvest Festival Donations and send gifts to those less fortunate through Samaritan Purse's Shoebox Appeal.



Our pupils are encouraged to stop and reflect on the wonder of the world around them, whether it's the birth of a baby chick, or the growth of a vegetable from a few seeds. For example, our gardening and environmental club, Plot 2 Pot, teaches our pupils how to grow, cultivate and cook with home grown produce; our Forest School and outdoor learning curriculum teaches pupils about the wonders of the great outdoors; and our KS1 pupils learn about agriculture and plants, growing their own fruits and vegetables as part of their Farm to Fork topic.



Our curriculum is creative and provides opportunities for children to use their imagination in their learning. Hooks, drama and role play are used to provide active immersion in learning to encourage the best of outcomes. Teachers actively plan for such experiences, indicating links to spiritual development to ensure coverage.



Children are given opportunities to reflect on their experiences in a wide range of different ways; from evaluating their own learning to reflecting on their own and others' beliefs and values, to sharing their discoveries with other pupils and parents. During class projects and whole school projects pupils often reflect on big and complex questions and engage in cross-curricular learning.



Our Forest School curriculum encourages our children to explore the great outdoors and step out of the classroom. Teachers plan outdoor learning opportunities across the curriculum, offering pupils hands-on activities to further understand the world around them. Pupils learn to take risks safely and develop life-skills such as fire safety and teamwork, as well as taking part in creative activities using natural materials.



Our Pupil Parliament also encourage children throughout school to think about how we can improve and take care of our school, our community and our world further. They lead on initiatives such as Odd Socks Day and Anti-Bullying Week, raising money for the Royal British Legion for Remembrance, creating mindfulness and wellbeing videos for Children's Mental Health Week and forging links with local charity The Rosie May Foundation by taking in food donations to give to those less fortunate.



## Enhancing Children's Moral Development at Archbishop Cranmer C of E Academy

The moral development of pupils is shown by their:

- Ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong, readily applying this understanding to their own lives and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England;
- Understanding the consequences of their behaviour and actions;
- Interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues, and being able to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

At Archbishop Cranmer, our children are given clear guidance on the difference between right and wrong in a wide variety of ways. Our Take Care Pledge and Take Care Hand help to remind the pupils of their expectations on how to behave and focuses on a positive approach to behaviour. The children are asked regularly to reflect on their behaviour and choices against our Take Care values.



Each class sets their own rules in the form of a class charter, created through discussion with the pupils. Children are encouraged to reflect on their own behaviour and at playtimes our Key Stage Two Playground Pals and Peer Mediators mediate disputes while also leading games and activities alongside our Sports Leaders. Our behaviour policy clearly sets out how we manage children's behaviour and tackle inappropriate behaviour in a consistent way. Children are given warnings using a traffic light system and reflect on what they have done to consider how they can resolve the situation.

Excellent behaviour and attitudes are rewarded through the following:

- House Points: awarded for teamwork, sportsmanship and helping others;
- Take Care Points: awarded for producing Take Care work;
- Gold Book Award: awarded by teachers for brilliant achievements in the classroom;
- Integrity Award: awarded by staff, pupils and members of the community for doing the right thing even when no one is watching;
- Christian Value Awards: awarded to children demonstrating our six Christian values;
- Archbishop Cranmer Cups and Awards (The Cranmer Cup for Integrity; The Maddison Award for Profound Personal Development; The Sports Award; The Arts Award; The Science Award; The Hillary Mantel Award for Writing and; The Green Award for Mathematics): awarded to our Year 6 pupils at our annual leavers service, in recognition of pupils' achievements throughout their journey at Archbishop Cranmer.

Children are celebrated during our fortnightly Gold Book celebration assemblies. Pupils nominated for awards are invited to sit at the front of the assembly hall where the whole school, and invited parents and carers can hear all about their excellent achievements. Pupils are encouraged to share their achievements first-hand. Out of school achievements such as sporting activities, competition entries and interesting hobbies are also celebrated.



Children are introduced to democracy through our Pupil Parliament. They consult on class views and bring these to regular meetings which are led by Miss Robinson, our Pupil Parliament lead. Much of their work is linked to charity projects and whole school initiatives such as Global Neighbours, Anti-Bullying Week, Children in Need, and achieving school accreditations such as Eco-Schools and Plastic-Free Schools. Pupil Parliament MPs receive annual training from UK Parliament to support them in their role to understand the connection to how our country is led and governed.



Our Year 5 pupils also take part in the Archbishop of York Young Leader Award which enables our pupils to build leadership skills and character, grow confidence, teamwork, resilience and care for others whilst empowering them to serve their communities. As part of the award, pupils identify, debate and action initiatives to 'be the change they want to see'. Pupils have organised litter picking in our local area, inviting local councillors from Rushcliffe and our local parish council to join the campaign.



Our Key Stage 2 pupils take on other Young Leaders roles within school where they can influence decisions made in school and ensure that the pupil voice is heard. Pupils develop leadership skills such as organisation, communication and teamwork, as well as helping to build confidence and self-esteem as they take on responsibility of leading their peers and younger children. At Archbishop Cranmer we believe that 'Everyone's a Learner, Everyone's a Leader' and our children take ownership of taking care of our school through taking responsibility for roles such as:

- Playground Pals – help to encourage happy and sociable playtimes
- Sports Leaders – organise and lead sporting activities at playtimes
- Catering Leads – assist at lunchtimes with the younger children and clearing away
- Pupil Tour Guides – welcome visitors and guide them around school
- Digital Leaders – prepare the interactive whiteboard, manage the laptop and sort the music during assemblies and collective worship
- House Captains – count up house points and share these in weekly assemblies.

Pupils also engage in opportunities from outside providers such as DARE and cycling proficiency which build their moral development. We also visit Belvoir Cricket Club for their annual Cricket and Countryside Day.



Children are also taught about fundamental British Values and are encouraged to express and listen to others' views through RHE lessons and across the curriculum. Speaking and listening is highly regarded at Archbishop Cranmer and is encouraged from the beginning of their school journey through Show and Tell to leading assemblies, classroom debates and performing in front of audiences for our Christmas and summer performances as they progress through Key Stage 2. Our Year 6 children also visit the Houses of Parliament each year to find out about how laws are made and the importance of parliament in our country's history and future.



Moral and ethical issues are explored widely through assemblies, literacy, history and a wide range of other subjects and activities. Giving children time to consider an issue from both sides is an important part of their education and could include a moral dilemma in a text or topic, such as the impact of deforestation on the rainforests as part of an Amazon project, or reflecting upon leadership qualities in The Story of Moses in RE. Whole school events such as taking part in World Ocean's Day and Remembrance also enable us to explore moral issues in greater depth and across all age groups. We also reflect upon current affairs, such as the recent COP26 Climate Change Summit in assemblies and classrooms using Picture News resources.



## Enhancing Children's Social Development at Archbishop Cranmer C of E Academy

The social development of pupils is shown by their:

- Use of a range of social skills in different contexts, including working and socialising with pupils from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds;
- Willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively;
- Acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; the pupils develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

At Archbishop Cranmer we believe that children need to have opportunities to develop their social skills in a range of different contexts. They achieve this through working cooperatively with a wide range of people - some familiar to them and some unfamiliar, some within the school community and some beyond. Staff and parents recognise they all have a crucial role to play in ensuring they model appropriate behaviours and attitudes at all times.

The range of opportunities for working and socialising with others is extensive, but some of the examples include collaborative whole school projects, sports day, breakfast club and after school clubs, school fairs and charity fundraising events. Our Take Care values help to ensure the children have a clear framework for how they treat others with respect and tolerance. Our Key Stage 2 pupils take on their Young Leader roles with responsibility, taking care of our younger pupils not only during playtimes and lunchtimes, but also as part of their Reading Gladiator roles and during events such as sports day.



Beyond the school gates, children have opportunities to explore and be a part of their local community – whether this is taking part in a sponsored fun run or memory walk or playing for their local sports team. We are incredibly proud of our children’s behaviour and attitudes when they are out of school and frequent feedback from members of the public highlights the wonderful role models they are.



Children are given a range of responsibilities as they go through the school and these develop from classroom monitors to ensure classrooms are kept tidy and well-presented, to library monitors and sports leaders in Key Stage Two. We have also adopted our local train station, and are working alongside Poacherline to take care of this strand of our local community where we have helped to plant herbs and flowers, created a mosaic mural and decorated the station for events such as Remembrance.



Pupils are encouraged to explore the faith and beliefs of people from a range of different cultures and religions through visitors and trips as part of Religious Education as well as topics linked to geography and RHSE. Joint events with other schools in our Multi-Academy Trust and our family of schools, such as sporting and cultural events also provide opportunities to share experiences and social skills. Pupils have also made links with Metuntu Primary School in Kianjai, Kenya, sending donations, writing and receiving letters.



As a church school, **Christian Values** are reflected in nearly everything we do and influence how we treat each other. These values are not exclusively Christian but when brought together help to make our school the church school that it is.

The values which our school focus on are: Kindness, Responsibility, Courage, Trust, Respect and Thankfulness.








Each half term we focus on a particular value through our assemblies and collective worship to help children explore what they represent and what they mean to them. Children across all classes write a weekly worship reflection to further explore their response to the key messages explored in collective worship and RE lessons.

These support and link to the fundamental British Values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs.

**British Values in Action**

British Values underpin what it is to be a citizen in a modern and diverse Britain. They encourage us to create environments free from discrimination, intolerance and hate and to challenge prejudice and stereotyping, whilst strengthening community relationships.

**The Fundamental British Values are:**

 <b>Tolerance</b> Understanding and recognising that we may not all share the same views or beliefs and valuing each other's differences.	 <b>Mutual Respect</b> Showing respect and kindness to everyone. Respecting the views of others and not imposing yours.	 <b>Individual Liberty</b> Having the freedom to choose your own faith, beliefs, likes and dislikes.
 <b>Rule of Law</b> All people and groups are ruled by the same laws which have been created to help keep us safe and happy.	 <b>Democracy</b> Where people have equal rights and the freedom to choose how they are treated. Decision making is shared and votes can be cast to inform decisions.	

Can you reflect upon some of the ways in which you demonstrate these British Values around school and at home?  
Look out for these signs on our whole school and classroom displays to reflect upon how we learn about these fundamental British Values across our curriculum.

At Archbishop Cranmer, these are reinforced regularly in the following ways:

### **Democracy**

Democracy is embedded at the school. Pupils are always listened to by adults and are taught to listen carefully and with concern to each other, respecting the right of every individual to have their opinions and voices heard. Pupils also have the opportunity to air their opinions and ideas through our Pupil Parliament and regular questionnaires. The elections of the Pupil Parliament members are based solely on pupil votes, reflecting our British electoral system and demonstrating democracy in action. Democracy is also an element of our RHE curriculum 'HeartSmart' and during KS2 children have opportunities to explore democracy through the local and national political systems.

### **The Rule of Law**

The importance of laws whether they are those that govern the class, the school or the country, are consistently reinforced. Our Christian values are deeply embedded and form the basis of our code of conduct. Each class also discusses and sets its own rules that are clearly understood by all and seen to be necessary to ensure that every class member is able to learn in a safe and ordered environment. Our pupils are taught the value and reasons behind laws, that they govern and protect us, the responsibilities that this involves and the consequences when laws are broken. In KS2 children also have the opportunity to visit the Houses of Parliament to gain a deeper understanding of the legal system and its history.

### **Individual Liberty**

Within school, pupils are actively encouraged to make choices, knowing that they are in a safe and supportive environment. As a school we educate and provide boundaries for our pupils to make choices safely, through the provision of a safe environment and an empowering education. Our pupils are encouraged to know, understand and exercise their rights and personal freedoms and are advised how to exercise these safely; examples of this can be clearly seen in our e-safety RHE lessons. Whether it is through choice of challenge; of how they record; of participation in our numerous extra- curricular activities; our pupils are given the freedom to make choices.

### **Mutual Respect**

The pupils understand that respect is essential in order that we exist in harmony with each other. It is expected that respect is shown to everyone, whatever differences we may have and to everything, however big or small. The core value of Respect at Archbishop Cranmer underpins our work every day both in and out of the classroom.

### **Tolerance of Those with Different Faiths and Beliefs**

Our Christian value of Respect ensures tolerance of those who have different faiths and beliefs. Archbishop Cranmer enhances pupils' understanding of different faiths and beliefs

through religious education studies including visits to a range of places of worship and inviting pupils to talk about their own faith. Through this our pupils gain an enhanced understanding of their place in a culturally diverse society.

## Enhancing Children’s Cultural Development at Archbishop Cranmer C of E Academy

The cultural development of pupils is shown by their:

- Understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and that of others;
- Understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain;
- Knowledge of Britain's democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain;
- Willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, sporting and cultural opportunities;
- Interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity, and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

At Archbishop Cranmer we seek to provide opportunities for our pupils to explore and celebrate both their own cultural identity and that of those around them. This is achieved through a range of projects embedded within our curriculum, from celebrating Diwali to finding out about the importance of our school name-sake, Thomas Cranmer, to encourage and foster pride in our school badge.



We are also taking part in a career-related learning project called ‘Our Future’ which seeks to broaden the horizons of our children through career development activities which will reduce stereotypical ideas around future careers and employment as well as offering hands-

on activities which extend pupils' opportunities and understanding of what careers are available to them as they move into the next stage of their education and beyond, preparing them for life in modern Britain.

We also seek to give children an insight into the many traditions that are a part of our cultural history in the UK. This ranges from enjoying an annual pantomime to Maypole dancing at our local village fête as well as exploring the significance of events in British history such as Remembrance Day.



To celebrate the importance of agriculture in our local area, we take our older pupils to Flintham Ploughing Match each September and host our own Horticultural Show to celebrate the fruitfulness of the earth. Pupils learn about the traditions behind such events to understand their significance in history and community traditions.



We are fortunate to have so many opportunities to explore the wide range of historical, artistic and sporting opportunities on our doorstep here in Nottinghamshire. Children experience a wide range of music through taking part in Young Voices and when visiting the theatre on residential visits. All children have a weekly music lesson and children from Foundation to Year 6 have the opportunity to have musical tuition provided by external agencies. They all have opportunities to perform to parents, carers and our community each term and all children also perform in the Key Stage One and Foundation Nativity and Key Stage Two Summer Production. This did not stop when COVID restrictions were in place, where our pupils sang for our local community socially distanced, and learnt Makaton signs and symbols to perform our virtual 2020 Nativity!



At Archbishop Cranmer we are always proud of our sporting achievements and we are always broadening the range of sports our children can take part in and appreciate. This includes boccia, tri-golf and table tennis. We have made the most of our links with one of our local cricket clubs, Nottinghamshire County Cricket Club, who have provided our Key Stage One and Year 3 children with training sessions and treated our Key Stage 2 pupils to free tickets to see Nottinghamshire play at their home ground at Trent Bridge.



All of our classes also make the most of local visits to museums and galleries to help support their learning across the curriculum, whether that's Green's Windmill, Perlethorpe and Brackenhurst Outdoor Education Centres, Sherwood Pines or The National Holocaust Centre.



Our Key Stage Two children take part in a local Junior School Art and Photography Competition run by the Belvoir Rotary Group and Robert Jenrick's annual parliamentary Christmas card competition where this year one of our Year 4 pupils received the runner up prize. Our pupils' artwork has been awarded winning prizes for consecutive years and pupils

have had their work exhibited in the local library. Our artwork is also regularly used to decorate our church, St. Thomas', for the congregation to enjoy, as well as taking pride of place on the Cranmer Group's Christmas Card which is sent to parishioners in the local community.

As members of the Linking Network we have commenced a two-year link with a city centre school with the aim to develop a positive and cohesive ethos which enables our pupils to explore identity, celebrate diversity and promote community and champion equality.

As part of our focus on British Values, children explore the concept of democracy from an early age. All classes from Foundation upwards voted for our chosen charities to support for the academic year based on presentations made by our Key Stage Two children. Pupils also lead on a range of events, from Red Nose Day to working with the school cook to improve lunches. Democracy is an important aspect of RHE and our children gain insight into this through talks from local MPs and their visit to the Houses of Parliament.



Respect for different faiths and cultures is a core part of our school mission and we strongly believe that by providing children with opportunities to explore and learn from the faiths, cultures and beliefs of those in the school community and beyond, underpinned by our Christian values. We believe this is fundamental to our children to grow into active citizens ready for life in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. We prepare all children to make exceptional contributions to the global society and our curriculum enriches lives spiritually, culturally, emotionally and morally. It is important that our clearly communicated and lived out values are also understood at home, with the potential for our whole school community to be influenced and changed by them. It is this living out of our values which genuinely defines our school and makes us distinctive.

Our 'HeartSmart' RHE curriculum also has direct links to spiritual, moral, social and cultural education, where each lesson plan links directly to at least one area of the requirements. Through these lessons, our aim is to equip our pupils with a healthy internal dialogue and resilient approach to life through high-quality learning opportunities which link closely to our school values and church-school ethos. Pupils engage in learning experiences told

through stories to build healthy thinking, covering topics such as self-love, relationships with others, emotions, truthfulness and resilience.



For more up-to-date information on our curriculum and extensive links to pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development, please visit our Twitter page:

<https://twitter.com/aslocktonschool>

Please also visit our school website to find out more about how our children are living '*life in all its fullness*' (John 10:10) for today and the future:

<https://www.archbishopcranmer.co.uk/visions-and-values/>

