



"With God, all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26)

Our school offers a supportive, inclusive, nurturing and inspiring learning environment, where each member is known by God; loved and empowered to reach their full potential. Children are encouraged through an aspirational and engaging curriculum to develop their knowledge, skills and character so that they can truly flourish, both now and into the future.

Spiritual Development at the Heart of the Curriculum

'Spirituality is the deep human longing to experience the transcendent in our ordinary life it's the expectation to experience the extraordinary in the ordinary, the miraculous in the mundane, and the sacred camouflaged in the profane.'

Aspects of Spirituality	School opportunities	Educating for Life in All its Fullness	School Improvement
A sense of the mystery of life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography, Science, Number taught with real-life connections Literacy includes poetry and relevant texts Sex education and life cycles covered Encourage unanswerable questions and questioning Develop intrigue and curiosity Staff "journeying" with pupils to promote spiritual development RE as a key subject to promote spiritual growth Encourage children's questioning and reflection on unanswerable or "big" questions. 	<p>Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills:</p> <p>For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge & understanding <i>Proverbs 2:6</i></p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>Our children are 'and empowered to reach their full potential'.</p>	<p>Creating sacred spaces outside (ongoing)</p> <p>Encouraging learning with open eyes</p> <p>Providing education on relationships and sex (RSE)</p>
A sense of the human capacity for choice, decision making and personal responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behaviour choices in and out of classroom Opportunities to choose creative responses to work Play buddies Worship Leaders Nurture team PE/Play Home Learning Eco Warriors School Council Meeting targets Self-evaluation in learning Librarians Reading buddies 	<p>Educating for Community and Living Well Together:</p> <p>'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.' <i>Deuteronomy 6:5</i></p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>Our children 'empower others to do the same'.</p>	<p>Continuing to develop independence in learning and practical life skills</p> <p>Providing opportunities through school 'houses'</p> <p>Allowing choice of how, where and when to pray</p> <p>Establishing community links and supporting those in need</p> <p>Organizing curriculum-themed days</p>

<p>A sense of awe and wonder</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incorporation of spiritual development in all aspects of school life • Focus on exploration and discovery • Utilization of all senses • Increased awareness of the world around us • Integration of technology innovations • Regular visits from outside experts and speakers • Links with other schools and organizations, and opportunities for visits and trips • Visits to churches and other places of worship • Participation in forest school programs • Engagement with eco-council initiatives and outdoor classrooms/wildlife areas. 	<p>Educating for Hope and Aspiration:</p> <p>‘That their hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ’ Colossians 2:2</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>We ‘provide a welcoming, inclusive and aspirational learning environment at the heart of its community.’</p>	<p>Embracing and seizing ‘wow’ moments</p> <p>Sacred spaces</p>
<p>A sense of transcendence & an awareness of there being something more to life than meets the eye</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using the language of ‘God’, ‘prayer’ etc. • Imagination • Reflection - I wonder Not always an answer • Stories • Relationships • Prayer • Art work e.g. Remembrance • RE visits/Virtual speakers 	<p>Educating for Hope and Aspiration:</p> <p>‘Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace among men’ Luke 2:14</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>We ‘...develop resilience and creativity in all we do.’</p>	<p>Displays / posters / outdoor environment</p> <p>Exploring symbols</p>
<p>A reflective attitude to the natural world</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognizing the impact of the natural world on human nature • Providing access to a play area, conservation area, and field • Organizing off-site visits, walks, residential visits, and partnerships with wildlife trusts • Establishing a dedicated wildlife area 	<p>Educating for Dignity and Respect:</p> <p>‘And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good’ Genesis 1:31</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p>	<p>Use of School grounds</p> <p>Eco Warriors</p> <p>Development of school grounds/Opal play</p>



Believe Achieve Aspire!

St Laurence-in-Thamet CE Junior Academy

Joy . Hope . Forgiveness . Love . Resilience

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting awareness of eco-issues, fair trade, Earth Day, and local tree-planting projects Displaying photographs, pictures, class books, artwork, and sketch work related to the natural world Empowering students to take action as "Eco Warriors" or similar roles. 	Our school is a place 'where everyone is understood and respected.'	
A sense of pattern, sequence and order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Animals and the natural world - life cycles Dance/Music Maths and Science Organised and well-managed classrooms Christian Year/festivals Making connections within the curriculum Extra-curricular activities. 	<p>Educating for Community and Living Well Together:</p> <p>'In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth' ... 'And there was evening, and there was morning—the sixth day.'</p> <p>Genesis 1:1 and 1:31</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>Through the development of leadership at all levels, 'We nurture, encourage and support all'</p>	<p>Teaching for meaning through exploring pattern and sequence</p> <p>Improving school tidiness and organization</p> <p>Addressing attendance issues for some students.</p>
A spirit of enquiry and open mindedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking and listening / show and tell Higher order questioning / topic questions Teaching for Mastery maths Encourage time to ask questions Self-evaluation / assessment Interfaith Learning Days Places of worship visit Appreciating other people's points of view Inference through reading 	<p>Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills:</p> <p>'Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.'</p> <p>Romans 12:2</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>'With spiritual development at the heart of the school, our children are inspired with a love of learning'.</p>	<p>Encouraging children to ASK more questions</p> <p>Further develop partner work and mixed ability pairings</p>
A sense of life's joys and achievements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration assemblies/Awards Show and tell 	Educating for Dignity and Respect:	Allowing pupils to lead celebration assemblies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing and appreciating special moments Celebrating birthdays/special occasions of others Inspirational speakers Fun and laughter High standards = genuine achievement John 10:10 "Live life in all its fullness" Appreciating others' achievements Head teacher awards Class Dojo tokens 	<p>'Then I was constantly at his side. I was filled with delight day after day, rejoicing always in his presence, rejoicing in his whole world and delighting in mankind.'</p> <p>Proverbs 8:30-31</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>We enable our children 'to flourish and embrace their fullest individual potential'.</p>	<p>Worship Team leading worship every term</p> <p>Focusing on "Be the Best You Can" attitude</p>
An awareness of disappointment and failure. suffering and pain. decay and loss	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bereavement services Disasters (earthquakes, tsunami, bombings, floods, famine, drought) Adult and children leaving History, Science, Stories, and RE Global School Partnership Supporting charities Emotional resilience Mental health and well-being policies and practices Christian values encouraging empathy and compassion Current affairs (e.g. Newsround) House competitions Child protection/safeguarding High expectations and positive attitude towards failure Challenging the most able students. 	<p>Educating for Dignity and Respect:</p> <p>'Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.'</p> <p>Colossians 3:12</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>The school is a place 'We nurture, encourage and support all children, adults and their families to be the best as God intended.'</p>	<p>Discussing current affairs</p> <p>Developing resilience, empathy, and independence</p> <p>Partnering with MAF</p>
A sense of others as feeling, thinking persons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building positive relationships with others through playtime and all times throughout the day Resolving conflicts through restorative justice practices Encouraging sharing, giving in, taking turns, respecting, and working in pairs/groups, including for those with special educational needs (SEN) 	<p>Educating for Dignity and Respect:</p> <p>'You shall love your neighbour as yourself'</p> <p>Leviticus 19:18</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>The school is a place 'We nurture, encourage and</p>	<p>Break down any racial / gender stereotyping</p> <p>Developing active listening skills and empathy</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fostering respect for each other as unique and special individuals Allowing time for reflection and emotional expression Caring for each other's feelings Holding Circle Time/Worship Time to explore spiritual values and beliefs Promoting Christian values of love, compassion, and forgiveness Providing mutual support and care for staff members Using mixed-age groupings to encourage social interaction and learning from peers Engaging with the local community and supporting charitable causes. 	support all children, adults and their families to be the best as God intended.'	
An increasing ability to empathise with others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building positive relationships with others Resolving conflicts through restorative justice Teaching sharing, giving, taking turns, and respecting others Inclusion of students with special educational needs Promoting respect for each other's uniqueness Allowing time for reflection and emotional awareness Caring for each other's feelings Incorporating circle time and worship time Emphasizing Christian values Mutual support and care for staff Mixed-age groupings Engaging with the community and charity work. 	<p>Educating for Dignity and Respect:</p> <p>'Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.'</p> <p>Ephesians 4:32</p> <p>How does this link to the school's vision and mission?</p> <p>We enable our children 'to flourish and embrace their fullest individual potential as God intended'.</p>	<p>Residential/visits to culturally and socially different cities</p> <p>Evaluating if children can apply their learning in daily life</p>
A sense of the quality of silence and reflection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wildlife area PPA time Leave space and provide space 	<p>Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills:</p> <p>'Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among</p>	<p>Sacred spaces outside</p> <p>Developing independence</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment for learning informing lesson planning Worship time and personal connection with God Listening Quiet and calm working environments Teaching skills that allow time to think, respond, and evaluate A calm, colourful, and stimulating school environment Prayer places, such as in-classroom reflection areas Giving children time and silence, and teachers too Staff room Music Using The Ark (Nurture room) 	<p>the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!’ Psalm 46:10</p> <p>How does this link to the school’s vision and mission?</p> <p>A sense of silence and reflection is instilled ‘so we develop resilience and creativity in all we do’.</p>	<p>Encouraging children to think for themselves and take responsibility</p> <p>Developing self-control</p> <p>Recognizing the positive impact of silence and reflection on academic results and mental health</p>
A sense of self worth and the worth of others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Display celebrating all effort and achievement High academic standards PSHE (Personal, Social, Health, and Economic Education) - especially and specifically Provision for SEN (Special Educational Needs) / Gifted and Talented Health and Safety policy and procedures Safeguarding children Teamwork - sport Family / mixed-age groupings Teaching about Jesus Admissions policy Assessment / feedback approach – praise, understanding, personal Guest speakers Houses Catering for different learning styles Year 6 Leavers’ awards Challenging any behavior which puts others down / lack of dignity 	<p>Educating for Dignity and Respect:</p> <p>‘Put on then, as God’s chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.’ Colossians 3:12-14</p> <p>How does this link to the school’s vision and mission?</p> <p>Both our children and adults are valued nurtured, encouraged and supported to be the best as God intended.</p>	<p>Friends intervention: aspiration and self-belief</p> <p>Developing links with the community</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad curriculum to enable children to experience success. 		
A growing self-confidence in expressing inner thoughts (spiritual communication)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions in PSHE curriculum Development of listening skills Creative expression through dance, art, drama, and music Encouraging conversations about difficult topics without fear or embarrassment Embracing mistakes and taking risks Interactive play Child/class-led assemblies and worship times Well-taught RE and spiritual development with a focus on emotional literacy Opportunities for prayer 	<p>Educating for Wisdom, Knowledge and Skills:</p> <p>‘Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will.’ Romans 12:2</p> <p>How does this link to the school’s vision and mission?</p> <p>A sense of spiritual communication is developed ‘so all may be supported to be the best as God intended.</p>	<p>Pupil-led worship</p> <p>More opportunities for extemporary prayer</p>
A sense of the joy in life, all achievements and play	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Taking part Celebration Assembly Competitions Laughter and fun Healthy school issues After School Clubs PE partnership PTA / Social events Teaching for Mastery maths Sport (Sports Premium) Achievement for all through a broad curriculum and hard work Residential visits 	<p>Educating for Hope and Aspiration:</p> <p>‘May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.’ Romans 15:13</p> <p>How does this link to the school’s vision and mission?</p> <p>We develop opportunities ‘to inspire, nurture and bring joy’.</p>	<p>Playtime resources</p> <p>Wet play resources</p>