

Lea and Garsdon Church of England Primary School

Spirituality

Spiritual development is the development of the non-material element of a human being which animates and sustains us and, depending on our point of view, either ends or continues in some form when we die. It is about the development of a sense of identity, self-worth, personal insight, meaning and purpose. It is about the development of a person's 'spirit'. Some people may call it the development of a person's 'soul'; others as the development of 'personality' or 'character'.

Walking around our school we hope you will see:

- ✚ A spark within us
- ✚ An appreciation for ourselves, others and the world around us
- ✚ A smile throughout our bodies
- ✚ Individuals who form a loving community
- ✚ A longing to continually grow and develop
- ✚ People who help to make the world a better place
- ✚ An openness to look beyond ourselves
- ✚ Through our love of others you will see God.



We think these sayings help us to understand spirituality:

- ✚ The sparkle within us shows our spirit.
- ✚ We are shaped and fashioned by what we love. *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*
- ✚ We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience. *Teilhard de Chardin*
- ✚ Our spirit is an invisible force made visible in all life. *Maya Angelou*
- ✚ We are not here merely to make a living. We are here to enrich the world. *Woodrow Wilson*
- ✚ As my character and personality develops, my spirit sparkles.
- ✚ My spirituality helps me to have an appreciation for myself, others, life and the world around us.
- ✚ My spirituality helps me to work out who I am, gives me meaning and a purpose.
- ✚ Being spiritually open-minded doesn't mean believing everything you hear.
- ✚ It means respecting other people's beliefs and experiences that led them to believe what they believe.
- ✚ There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it. *Edith Wharton*
- ✚ The fact that I can plant a seed and it becomes a flower, share a bit of knowledge and it becomes another's, smile at someone and receive a smile in return, are to me continual spiritual exercises.