

Minutes of Christian Distinctiveness Working Group

Held on Thursday 8th December 2022

Present:

Verity Edey (Headteacher)

Ben Hodson (Chair of Governors)

Katrina Nice (Curate)

Wendy Herring

Gemma Geis

Nicola Prue

Laura M

Parents invited to attend (None attended)

Meeting opened at 1pm

1. Apologies received and accepted from Marian

2. **Minutes from previous meeting held 8th October 2022**

- Minutes were agreed as accurate.
- VE to arrange for CDWP minutes to be placed on school website.

3. Actions from the previous meeting

Pink = achieved

Orange = In Process

Green = To grow and develop further

- CDWP minutes to be placed on the website
- Spirituality policy shared: What is this to all members of the community? (Currently being reviewed in response to training)
- Values shed to be considered and opportunities for all, big questions. In process.
- Parents to be invited to a class worship. Spring Term TBC
- Follow up with Diocese Spirituality for all – Ryan
- CDWP members to read the spirituality policy
- SIAMS policies duplicated under vision and values tab on the website.
- Evaluation plans for worship – Scribed by adult.
- Use of windows, mirrors, doors to ensure worship is transformative – RE lead and worship lead have resources in place
- Triad of RE to be set up to quality assure judgements – Set up January
- Understanding Christianity training to be booked for all staff– Booked for January x 3
- Monitoring of Collective worship Yes– acolyte network to be put in place - Emailed
- It was agreed that the mental health lead would carry out surveys of staff for their wellbeing and she would be invited to the next FGB to share findings and actions.
- Meeting with Ryan Parker arranged
- Collective worship leader's course

- Deeper Understanding worship 8/12/22

- We are booked onto Understanding Christianity Training 3 sessions for all staff.

Recent updates across SIAMS strands

4. Update on school's plans for accreditation at 'bronze' level on the Christian Aid 'Global Neighbor's Award

- Handbook has been downloaded.
- Identified ways that we can show we are meeting bronze award.
- An action plan is in place to meet this award.
- Each area is being explored to enable children to understand key areas more.
- We are linking what we already do, but going to the next step of how we take to the next step of courageous advocacy.
- Leader has met with Christian aid for clarity on achieving the award.
- Pupil impact further than charitable giving is essential to achieve this award.
- How courageous are you being by wearing spots for uniform day? Strand 3 talks about character development. How are children putting themselves out to make a change? It was suggested for children to send their letters to someone key and influential e.g. a local MP to aim for change. It was suggested to send these to parents also.
- There are links between dignity and respect strand and courageous advocacy.
- Consider the recent energy crisis and who can we write to to make a change? How can we link topics e.g. electricity in science?
- A promotional board in school will be set up.
- Be careful about stereotyping when photos of deprived people are used.

5. Update on dignity and respect

- Dignity added to a value of all policies from January. Strand leader to monitor.
- Office have been notified of this to action from January.
- Strand leader for this strand and courageous advocacy are working together.
- All staff to read 'Valuing all God's Children' as this talk about us being an inclusive school, regardless of being a church school.
- Head to circulate link.
- Interventions, nurture groups before, after and in school to support.
- How has dignity and respect and Valuing God's children been monitored through the use of CPOMS? Have there been prejudice related issues and how is this trend compared to last year.
- Following a JIGSAW PSHE unit have any prejudice issues changed? PSHE leader to investigate impact.

6. Progress on the previous SIAMS inspection target of the Spiritual Garden and other areas which promote spirituality.

- This is timetabled for classes. The weather has hindered as much use as would be liked so far this term.

- Bulbs have been planted by parents for spring.

7. Progress on previous SIAMS inspection target, pupils leading worship

- Worship leader will take 6 acolytes to evaluate another school's excellent worship.
- Robes ordered for pupils
- Pupils led recent epiphany service.

8. Plans for monitoring RE over this term:

- Leader has met with headteacher to quality assure learning in books across KS1
- Intent for RE is strong and in place.
- Leader has re written incarnation planning to ensure to ensure it matches the big Frieze and story of the bible in line with the understanding Christianity document
- Bigger questions in RE to deepen understanding are being investigated
- Leader is meeting with an excellent RE leader in an outstanding school.
- Visits to a variety of places of worship 'Queen's Park' Church, synagogue, mosque. Visit each one through the day. Year 2's a faith leader comes to talk. Consider exploring.
- Head and leader moderated whether the St Mary's brand of RE was in place in line with the curriculum intent and implementation approaches.
- RE is a core subject in the school and is assessed term on term.
- A member of the Jewish community asked to deliver training.
- RE plans to be looked at for the January units by RE leader
- Gemma to share with Katrina the yearly overview RE and Katrina and Wendy to host theological sessions prior to teaching.

9. Plans for Collective Worship over this term

- Ensure that other festivals are covered as assemblies separate to worship.
- Class worship – Acolytes. Are they reading a prayer at the end? Are children invited to pray spontaneously.
- How does time get set aside to write, plan and practise a worship.
- Parents invited to worship in school
- Pupil acolyte robes to be worn
- Spirituality training with Ryan to cover Rebecca Nye then from this think about the different ways you can be spiritual. Then what to offer. Be closer to God and peace. Not everyone is spiritual by being peaceful.

Ensure all staff articulate how the school ensures we are flourishing? What examples have we got where pupils and staff are flourishing?

10. Training Schedule Update

- Understanding Christianity training has been attended.
- Worship training has been attended
- Spirituality training has been attended
- RE training for RE lead has taken place and RE lead will now deliver training this half term to teachers.

Next meeting: 9th February 2023 1pm

A thank you to staff and leaders across the school for their endeavours.

Meeting closed at 2.30pm