

Minutes of Christian Distinctiveness Working Group

Held on February 9th 2022

Present:

Verity Edey (Headteacher)

Katrina Nice (Curate)

Kayleigh McGrath

Taiba Khan

Marian Chowdry

Parents invited to attend (None attended)

Meeting opened at 1pm

1. Apologies received and accepted from Wendy Herring and Ben Hodson

2. Minutes from previous meeting

- 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

- 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 2nd half term for Mothering Sunday
- Evaluation plans for worship – Scribed by adult. Worship Acolytes are doing this.
- Use of windows, mirrors, doors to ensure worship is transformative – RE lead and worship lead have resources in place and a meeting booked with Ryan Parker to talk through ideas. Embedded within the structure of worship.
- Triad of RE to be set up to quality assure judgements – Connections forming and next half term this will be organised.
- 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
- We are booked onto Understanding Christianity Training 3 sessions for all staff.
- Promotional board set up for Global Neighbours
- Consider how we can link topics e.g. science to courageous advocacy
- 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.
- Send valuing God's children to CDWP party
- Robes ordered for pupils. Still trying to source.
- Other festivals are covered as assemblies separate to worship.

- Are children invited to lead prayer?
- Worship leader to take 6 Acolytes to an excellent church school to evaluate worship impact. Difficulty lies with transport.
- Visits investigated to places of worship.
- What examples are there of pupils and staff flourishing? Social care and support for all families that need it. Food bank, safeguarding in general. Reading all pupils are flourishing and staff flourishing in delivering this. Language acquisition for EAL pupils. Staff flourishing socially too. E.g. food always available for lunch.

Recent updates across SIAMS strands

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

- Pupil Parliament, 2 from each class are trying to be voices for people that don't necessary have them.
- Showing heart for the earth ignited lots of ideas on Dojo of pupils going litter picking to help the earth, another raised money through rugby, This was transformative to pupils.

5. Update on Wisdom and Knowledge

- Trying to achieve green flag award for eco and SMSC
 - So far we have audited where we are.
 - For eco award, we have eco warriors in each year group who meet half termly and discuss how to save the earth, electricity, water and recycling being an important element for pupils.
 - Children understand why we recycle.
 - We have had an eco-assembly to introduce warriors to the rest of the school.
 - Pupils were elected after giving speeches to their peers. A voting system was in place
 - Hearts of the Earth assembly encouraged pupils with ideas on how they could save the earth. This was presented in assembly to raise awareness.
 - Minutes are in place for all meetings.
 - We recently conducted a school bird watch at home which was really well received from families.
 - Each week we award an eco trophy
 - ACTIONS for eco award: A display board to promote who warriors are and so that anyone who visits knows who they are and what they are doing. We want to engage parents in Friday flyer about what we are doing in school and what they can do at home.
 - SMSC award. We have a school policy for how this is embedded which all teachers have seen.
 - We need to share with parents what SMSC is and how we embed it in our school.
 - Multi sensory spiritual garden in use by all classes.
- Questions: Can info that is sent to parents also be sent to CDWP members.

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

- Spiritual areas are known as safe spaces for pupils. Each class has developed somewhere in the class that is a safe space where pupils can be spiritual
- Spiritual garden will be blooming soon with bulbs planted last year.

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

- Pupils have a purpose to lead.
- Pupils are sent off with a task and all children can have a part, even those that don't want to speak are having their input. E.g. wrote a prayer.
- Pupils lead bible stories
- Worship is more active where even the listeners are active.

8. RE over this term:

- RE lead is monitoring and supporting staff with planning ahead of 'Understanding Christianity' twilights this term.

9. Plans for Collective Worship over this term

- Children will be leading the Easter service with parents invited on the 28th March 2023: 9.30am

10. Training Schedule Update

- Understanding Christianity x 3 sessions booked
- Spirituality and worship booked for all staff with Ryan Parker

11. SIAMS update

A letter was received from the Diocese to inform the school that we are not now on the inspection list for this academic year, but for the year 2023-24 instead for inspection.

12. Next meeting: 23rd March 2023 1pm

13. Question: What is the value for next half term? Courage

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

Meeting closed at 2.30pm