

Minutes of Christian Distinctiveness Working Group

Held on Thursday 23rd March 2023

Present:

Verity Edey (Headteacher)

Katrina Nice (Lay Minister)

Kayleigh McGrath

Kiran Sumal

Marian Cowdrey

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

- Spoken to Pupil Parliament with ideas for fundraising. Ideas for palm oil and plastic wastes.
- Process of displaying voices/ideas.
- End step will be to write to shops about plastic wastes.
- Contact local tesco – target one fruit/veg

5. Update on community and living well

- Looking at wellbeing aspect of the school.
- Distributed wellbeing surveys to pupils
- Positive voice shared
- Some questions were raised e.g. around making sure they had access to water/water bottles
- A positive wellbeing overview from children.
- Opportunities for a class a week to go in the spiritual garden at break/lunch.
- Further discussions with pupils around the rationale between things that are in the garden.
- Where we are finding incidents happening in the playground we have devised a new enrichment programme for zoning the playground linked to zones of regulation. More of an outdoor classroom.

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

- See above

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

- Mothering Sunday worship, children led this to parents.
- Pupils are leading prayers
- Pupils leading charity events within worship.
- Pupils presenting in worship e.g. pupil voice groups

8. RE over this term:

- Understanding Christianity training has taken place this week led by the Diocese.
- Consider I wonder questions more for greater depth thinking

- Staff supported with knowledge of the big sto9ry of the bible.

9. Plans for Collective Worship over this term

- Training booked with the diocese for all teachers

10. Training Schedule Update

- **Session 2 of Understanding Christianity**

11. SIAMS update

12. Next meeting: 9.30am Thursday 25th May.

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

Meeting closed at 2.30pm