

A Family Guide to Our Vision, Values & Spiritual Development

Shap Endowed CE Primary School



At Shap, our Christian vision is not simply a statement on the wall. It helps shape how we learn, how we treat one another, how we respond when things go wrong, and how we help every child to flourish.

Our Christian Vision

"With children and the church at the heart of our school, we are living in harmony within our community; nurturing one another to create an environment from which all can soar."

A safe branch from which to soar

What does our vision mean?

Belonging – John 15:5 reminds us of the vine and its branches: we are connected and belong together.

Harmony – Romans 12:16 calls us to live in harmony. This does not mean always agreeing; it means listening, respecting difference and repairing relationships.

A safe branch – Psalm 91:4 speaks of shelter and nurture. We want children to feel safe, known and supported.

Soaring – Isaiah 40:31 speaks of soaring on wings like eagles. Every child is different, so flourishing will not look exactly the same for everyone.

A question we regularly ask ourselves is:

Who might not be soaring yet – and what can we do to help?

Our Christian Values

Friendship • Trust • Peace • Koinonia • Compassion • Creation

These values help children think about what our vision looks like in everyday life – in their learning, friendships, choices, care for others and care for our world.

What do we mean by spiritual development?

Spiritual development is about giving children opportunities to wonder, reflect, ask big questions, make connections, recognise what matters to them and respond to the world around them. As a Church school, this is rooted in our Christian foundation, while being inclusive of every child and family.

Our Sacred Pathways

We use **Sacred Pathways** to help children understand that people may experience spirituality in different ways. There is no single 'right' way to be spiritual.

WONDER

-  **Naturalist** – connecting through nature and the outdoors
-  **Sensate** – connecting through beauty, creativity and our senses

REFLECTION

-  **Relational** – connecting through relationships and being with others
-  **Thinker** – connecting through questions, ideas and understanding
-  **Still Seeker** – connecting through quiet, stillness and reflection

ACTION

-  **Caregiver** – connecting through caring for and serving others
-  **Activist** – connecting through justice and making a difference
-  **Enthusiast** – connecting through joy, music and celebration

Children meet these pathways through Worship Time, RE, the wider curriculum, Outdoor Learning, music and art, relationships, service and everyday school life. Over time, we want them to recognise which pathways help them to wonder, reflect, connect and respond.

What might you notice at Shap?

- Daily Worship Time with music, Bible stories, questions, prayer and opportunities for quiet reflection.
- Children helping to lead and shape worship through our Worship Council.
- Outdoor, creative and reflective experiences alongside more traditional worship.
- Children learning to listen to different viewpoints and disagree respectfully.
- Opportunities to care for other people, our community and Creation.
- Vision & Values Week each September, when we revisit what it means to live in harmony and help everyone soar.

How can families join in?

You do not need special words or religious knowledge. Talk together about moments of wonder, things you are grateful for, difficult questions, people who need care, something beautiful you have noticed, or something you would like to change for the better.

Wonder • Reflect • Respond

Together, we want Shap to be a place where everyone belongs and all can soar.