Ofsted Definition of Spiritual Moral Social and Cultural aspects of learning  
2016

The **spiritual development** of pupils is shown by their:

ability to be reflective about their own beliefs, religious or otherwise, that inform their perspective on life and their interest in and respect for different people’s faiths, feelings and values

sense of enjoyment and fascination in learning about themselves, others and the world around them

use of imagination and creativity in their learning

willingness to reflect on their experiences.

The **moral development** of pupils is shown by their:

ability to recognise the difference between right and wrong and to readily apply this understanding in their own lives, recognise legal boundaries and, in so doing, respect the civil and criminal law of England

understanding of the consequences of their behaviour and actions

interest in investigating and offering reasoned views about moral and ethical issues and ability to understand and appreciate the viewpoints of others on these issues.

The **social development** of pupils is shown by their:

use of a range of social skills in different contexts, for example working and socialising with other pupils, including those from different religious, ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds

willingness to participate in a variety of communities and social settings, including by volunteering, cooperating well with others and being able to resolve conflicts effectively

acceptance and engagement with the fundamental British values of democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs; they develop and demonstrate skills and attitudes that will allow them to participate fully in and contribute positively to life in modern Britain.

The **cultural development** of pupils is shown by their:

understanding and appreciation of the wide range of cultural influences that have shaped their own heritage and those of others

understanding and appreciation of the range of different cultures within school and further afield as an essential element of their preparation for life in modern Britain.
knowledge of Britain’s democratic parliamentary system and its central role in shaping our history and values, and in continuing to develop Britain’s willingness to participate in and respond positively to artistic, musical, sporting and cultural opportunities.

interest in exploring, improving understanding of and showing respect for different faiths and cultural diversity and the extent to which they understand, accept, respect and celebrate diversity, as shown by their tolerance and attitudes towards different religious, ethnic and socio-economic groups in the local, national and global communities.

Current framework for SIAMS requirements for Spiritual Development

Spiritual, moral, social and cultural development will be evaluated through:

a. the breadth of experiences available to all learners through curricular and extra-curricular activities

b. how well the school offers opportunities for learners to reflect on and respond to beliefs, values and profound human experiences from a range of faith perspectives

c. the extent to which the opportunities for spiritual, moral, social and cultural development are characterised by distinctively Christian values

d. how well daily collective worship, religious education and other aspects of the curriculum enable learners to make informed choices which are based on Christian values

e. the extent to which the school operates as a distinctively Christian community

Outstanding

(1)

There is a highly developed interpretation of spirituality shared across the school community. Learners have regular opportunities to engage in high quality experiences that develop a personal spirituality. They are passionate and confident to express their thoughts and views in considerable depth through a rich variety of styles and media.

Current SIAMS framework for Collective Worship that pertains to class led collective worship

how well collective worship develops personal spirituality within the school community through a range of experiences, including a focus on prayer
how effectively the school community is involved in the planning, leadership and evaluation of collective worship

**Outstanding Grade Descriptors**

Collective worship is inspirational and inclusive. It engages all learners and its impact can be clearly discerned in all aspects of relationships and school life.

Learners understand the value of personal prayer and reflection as part of their own spiritual journey. They seek out opportunities for this in their own lives and contribute confidently and sensitively to prayer in worship.

Learners are confident in planning and leading acts of worship, whether prepared beforehand or spontaneous, and have frequent opportunities to do so.