

Implementing our Christian Vision.

As a school we are in a unique position of being federated with a community school. Therefore our federation policies do not refer explicitly to our Christian vision. However, when writing these policies, we have been mindful not to include anything that would run contrary to our Christian ethos. In September 2018, the new leadership of the school began reviewing/creating key policies, and this process included renewing our Christian vision to reflect our distinct Christian ethos.

When implementing each policy, we ask the key question 'Does this help our children to develop their God given potential?' and this informs our practice and ensures that our Christian vision underpins everything we do.

There are several examples of how we have made adaptations to federation wide systems or policies to reflect our Christian ethos and further develop our pupils' spirituality. Below is not an exhaustive list, it simply provides an indication of the sort of consideration we give to each element of school life.

Come and See Books

Across the Federation each class maintains a scrap book of experiences related to the wider curriculum, British Values and SMSC (Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural). At Newington the name of these books is linked to our Christian Vision and Bible Story and we have added reflection time as part of the process. This allows thoughtful reflection about our experiences through the lens of Christianity, looking at how we flourish, leading us to adapt and change as individuals and as a community.

Lunchtimes

Lunch at Newington includes additional time sat in groups for discussion and reflection as well as having pupils lead grace.

Celebrating values

Alongside the weekly celebration assemblies across the federation, at Newington there is a follow-up tea-party with senior leaders. This provides a small group of pupils from across the school with the opportunity to share how they are flourishing. This also allows senior leaders to recognise the individuality of each pupil and help guide them to develop their god given potential.

Statutory policies

We have several statutory policies linked to employment law that are created and managed on our behalf by Schools Personnel Service. These policies do not take our Christian vision as a starting point as they are standard for all schools who have this support package. However, the way we implement these and how we conduct ourselves as leaders reflects our Christian vision and values. For example, we are flexible with the management of attendance for staff to allow them to engage in family life and related activities.