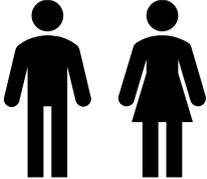
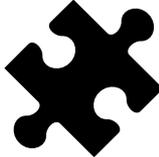


In conversation with Ronni Lamont: supporting the spiritual development of all within collective worship

Top Tips and Take-Aways

Ronni's top tips and wisdom	Questions to reflect on as a school
<p>'Spirituality is a word that everybody thinks they know what it means but they rarely check it out with other people...I believe it's the essence of what makes us truly human'</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the school have a shared understanding of spirituality, one which is distinguishable from social, moral and cultural development? • What difference does/would this make?
<p>David Csinos' four spiritual styles can help us facilitate collective worship which helps all pupils and staff to access their spirituality. These different approaches to spirituality are:</p> <p>Word-centred: spoken and written words, such as in prayers or bible stories, are important to those who are word-centred;</p> <p>Emotion-centred: connecting with one's feelings is important for those who are emotion-centred e.g. through listening to music, viewing art or drama, talking with others;</p> <p>Symbol-centred: these individuals value abstract metaphors, images (such as a lit candle) and silence; and</p> <p>Action-centred: those who are action-centred focus on a positive transformation of the world. Reflective questions such as 'I wonder what difference this thought might have for you today?' are powerful.</p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent are all four spiritual styles present across the school's collective worship provision? Are some dominant? If so, why might this be the case? • In which ways would being mindful of different spiritual styles allow collective worship to become more inclusive and inspirational?

The following might be useful for those wishing to explore some of these ideas further:

- Church of England Education Office. *Spiritual Development: Interpretations of spiritual development in the classroom* (2019): <https://tinyurl.com/wrnfvc2>
- David Csinos - Spiritual Styles - <https://www.rootsontheweb.com/discover-roots/spiritual-styles>
- Tony Eaude, *New Perspectives on Spiritual Development*: <https://edperspectives.org.uk/new-perspectives-on-spiritual-development-2/>
- David Hay and Rebecca Nye. *The Spirit of the Child* (Jessica Kingsley: London, 2006)
- Ronni Lamont. *Understanding Children, Understanding God* (SPCK: London, 2007)
- Ronni Lamont. *Faith in Children* (Lion Hudson: Oxford, 2020)
- Rebecca Nye. *Children's Spirituality: what it is and why it matters* (Church House Publishing: London, 2009)
- Gary Thomas. *Sacred Pathways* (Zondervan: Michigan, 2010)

If you'd like to discuss aspects of collective worship further, please contact Ryan Parker (RE and Christian Ethos Adviser) – rparker@stalbens.anglican.org.