## Shellingford CE (A) Primary School

Headteacher: Miss Judith Terrell



## 'Roots and foundation in love' Ephesians 3: 17

Our aim is to inspire hearts and minds, building 'roots and foundation in love' (Ephesians 3:17), enabling everyone to become the creative, questioning, spiritual individuals that God intends us to be, equipped with a love of learning, and empowered to make a difference in the world.

## **Spiritual Growth Statement**

As a Church of England school, we believe that children grow and learn best when rooted in the Christian values of 'Respect, Belonging, Creativity and Spirituality' which underpin our ethos.

We believe that education is about more than what children learn. We believe that it is about nurturing children's spirits to grow within a safe, welcoming, and loving environment that values each person as a unique individual made in the image of God.

We cannot teach children's spirits; spirits grow and develop in their own way, and they follow the God-given interests and talents of each individual child. What we seek to do at our school is to provide an environment that makes it possible for children and adults to explore, develop and grow through wonder, curiosity, and moral reasoning.

Whether it's through immersing ourselves in the beauty of nature through Forest School, or on residential visits to outdoor centres; exploring art, literature and music through creative learning; listening to our own internal life through prayer, through our zones of regulation, and embedding reflection throughout the curriculum; finding our place and voice in the world through compassionate social awareness and meaningful connections with our local community; or anchoring ourselves within the Christian religious tradition of our daily Collective Worship, at Shellingford CE (A) Primary School our commitment to spirituality runs deep, and it runs through everything that we do.

Spiritual growth takes bravery and courage, and it is only possible where each person feels loved, welcomed, and cared for as an individual. 'There is no fear in love', wrote St John (1 John 4:18). We want everyone in our community to feel loved and treasured so that each of us can grow into the unique people God is calling us to be.