**Christian Distinctiveness Meeting, 22nd May 2025**

**Attending:** Karen Winterburn**,** Rev Richard Priest, Katherine Bloomer

Apologies: Tom Stables, James Osler, Edward Buchan

Copy to: Amber Batson (Chair), Rev Suzanne Grindrod (Priest in Charge)

RP opened in prayer.

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| **Minutes from**  **23rd January 2025** | ***New Foundation governor*** – the paperwork for Edward has got stuck at the Diocese. Katherine to contact Ali Driver to see if anything is required. Karen confirmed that Tom’s finish date is next year. Due to the slowness of the process we need to start looking for a replacement soon!  **Christingle** – thanks to everyone involved.  **Lent & Easter review** – the resources were enjoyable and interesting, and this fed into the school service. Thoughts on 2026 – something to engage pupils, such as the kindness challenge, or the Eco challenge. Activities each week? Katherine welcomed ideas.  **Reflection tables** – thank you for returning some of the resources so these can be reused. Katherine would be grateful for notices and objects to be returned at the end of the school year.  **Athelstan Pilgrim Way** – the Draycot section is now active and families are welcome to try it out, perhaps over the summer holidays  **Pilgrimage Talk** – the school were very grateful to Edward for coming in to share. Pupils were full of questions and really enjoyed his visit. | **KB**  **ALL**  **KW/JO** |
| **Upcoming Events**  **T6** | **School Fete –** will happen the Saturday morning of the Scarecrow Festival.  **Lifepath, Malmesbury –** this will happen every 2 years. Next one 2026.  **Transition** - booked with Jessy 2nd July 1.10pm  **It’s Your Move** – Katherine has left the booklets to be used in T6.  **Leavers Service** – 17th July 2.15pm. School to plan, Katherine to top and tail.  **Bibles** – Katherine will organise these from St Peter’s.  **Back to School with God Service** – Sunday 7th September. Katherine to liaise with the church and Karen. | **KB**  **KB/KW** |
| **Church/School links** | **Values Storytelling** – 4th March. 29th April was a visit to church. Booked for 24th June.  **Reflection table** – Worship Council have created resources for T6. Katherine asked staff for feedback – are the resources used? What might be more effective?  **NWMA Wild church** - 28th Feb session with Jessy. Next session is transition in July.  **Partnership award** – nothing further from the PCC. Karen will discuss with staff in T6 and get back to Katherine | **JO/KW**  **KW** |
| **Collective Worship** | **Evaluation** – this was discussed with Worship Council. We are looking for a more effective way to assess the impact of CW. It was noted that pupils are more forthcoming in a discussion, so it was proposed that once a term James or Karen would have a discussion with a group of pupils and record their comments.  Worship Council will lead a CW on 25th June. | **KW/JO** |
| **Worship Council/**  **Pupil Voice** | We met on 28th January, 4th March, and 29th April. Minutes provided to staff and governors and have gone onto the school website. Our last meeting will be on 12th June. The group have planned and will lead CW on 25th June.  We have had one session thinking about spirituality – the image of a seed or a spark resonated (see SIAMS section).  We also had a discussion around courageous advocacy (see Courageous Advocacy section).  The team are keen to create resources for the class reflection tables. |  |
| **RE** | **WIRE award** – James to give an update.  **Spirited Arts** – James to give an update. Please ask Katherine if she or St Peter’s can be a support.  **Church visits** – Hercules came in T5 to explore Special Places. | **JO**  **JO** |
| **SIAMS** | * *Embed the language of spirituality across the school so that pupils and adults can see spirituality pervades all areas of school life.*   Worship Council have started to think about imagery. The idea of a spark or flame links with Amaze, Excite, Inspire. Discussion on a whole school creative activity in the autumn – connecting with light, decorating the parent shed? Each child makes ‘a light’? The Little Glow book links with light festivals.  Introducing this in the new school year in Sept was favoured.   * *Extend the opportunities for pupils to develop an understanding of Christianity as a global religion so that they might deepen their knowledge and appreciation of diversity in religious and non-religious worldviews*   We need to keep thinking about the music, images, prayers, examples we use around Christianity – a ‘typical’ Christian today is a 30 year old Nigerian woman. How are we deepening pupils appreciation that Christianity is a world wide faith expressed in many different ways. | **KW/JO**  **KW/JO** |
| **Courageous Advocacy** | We had a discussion in Worship Council and will include this in T6 Collective Worship.  We suggested that this goes to the staff team – each class could decide on a cause for the new school year. A project linked with part of the curriculum to increase understanding and help pupils to discover that they can make a difference. Karen and James to progress. | **KW/JO** |
| **Any Other Business** | **Celebrating the Agricultural Year Cycle** – Richard suggested marking the agricultural year to keep the link with our farming history: Plough Sunday 11th January, Rogation 10th May and Harvest (October).  **Harvest** – we want to continue to link with the date chosen by St Peter’s and charity. Katherine to advise ASAP.  **Gardening Club** – Amy is running a club in T6 and will look at the Reflection area. Karen is going to give a general weed over half term ready for the fete.  **Support from St Peter’s** – Richard asked the staff team: What other support might St Peter’s provide? | **KB**  **JO/KB** |
| **Date of next meeting** | Thursday 2nd October, 1.30pm |  |