

Christian Distinctiveness Meeting, 2nd March 2026

Attending: James Osler, Rev Richard Priest, Andrea Grafton, Katherine Bloomer

Apologies: Karen Winterburn, Edward buchan

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

RP opened in prayer.

Minutes from 6th November 2025	Foundation governor – we welcomed Andrea to her first meeting today. Diocesan Education Conference – James and Katherine attended in November 2025. It was good to network. Thoughts about ‘anti values’ - what does the opposite look like to aid understanding. Next conference will be in Swindon on 6th November 2026. Lent Kindness Challenge – Katherine has provided resources for this term. Karen to launch this week. Plough Monday – we marked this on 12th January in CW. David and Barabara Sealy were invited as local farmers and were delighted to come and share. Christingle – held on 30th January. James to confirm (and celebrate!) the amount raised for The Children’s Society.	JO
Upcoming Events T4 and 5	Easter Service in Church – 26th March 9.15am. Katherine will be leading. Music has already been sent to the school. Script to follow, focusing on the Kindness Challenge. Leavers Service – provisionally booked for 15th July, 9.15am. School to confirm with Katherine. Back to School Service – proposed for 6th September Rogation – an agricultural celebration asking God to bless the crops and land. Looking at an afternoon w/c 11th May – school to confirm. Weather permitting, whole school to have an outdoor service by the Community Orchard on the recreation field. School to confirm date. Katherine to speak to Graham Watson from the Parish Council. After Easter Experience – Friday 24th April in St Peter’s Church. All day (3 sessions) for Chameleon, Phoenix and Pegasus. Katherine to approach volunteers and agree timings with the school. Scarecrow Weekend – 20/21st June. School will be involved but the choir is not able to sing for the Sunday outdoor service. Parish Council Annual Meeting – The school has been asked to host this on 19th May.	KB JO JO KB

Church/School links	Values Storytelling with Reception pupils – took place on 10/11/25, 26/1/26 and is booked for 16/3. NWMA Wild church – took place on 14/1/26. Jessy will arrange a Summer date for Transition. Katherine will drop in the It's Your Move booklets at the beginning of T6. Partnership award – Katherine and Richard had completed a piece of work on this. James has uploaded to Teams so we can share and add to the document. Karen was confirming the submission date (there is no hurry) Discussion over applying for Silver or Gold.	KB KW
Collective Worship	Evaluation – James and Karen to find a way of capturing pupil thoughts on a regular basis, to demonstrate impact. To look through recent comments as well. Resources – Katherine has sent through the T4 resources and a reflection activity for each class – Sorry Sand. Embedding Spirituality – the Divine Spark. Katherine has included a reflection on our inner spark in some of this term's CWs. Please encourage everyone to use this image as they lead worship (celebration and singing hopefully make our sparks shine brighter!).	KW/JO
Worship Council/ Pupil Voice	T3 – we met on 21st January, and then led a CW on the Amaze, Excite, Inspire spirituality flame. T4 – meet on 11th March to look at the outdoor reflection area ideas, plan Easter egg hunt for Hercules and plan CW for 18th March on forgiveness.	
RE	WIRE award – the visit to the Sikh Gurdwara in Swindon is booked for Phoenix. The school can then submit an application to SACRE. Spirited Arts – this is booked in with staff for T6. James to touch base to make sure themes decided upon. The aim is to display the artwork in school – please invite the church to view. St Peter's would also be interested in displaying some of the artwork in church over the summer. James and Katherine to discuss further. Church visits – James to remind staff if they want to book anything for T5 and T6. New Wiltshire SACRE syllabus – James attended the launch in November in Devizes. There have been further discussions at the RE Hub meetings, and James is due another meeting with SSQ RE lead to continue planning. Richard to arrange a monitoring visit at both schools.	JO JO/KB JO
SIAMS	<i>Embed the language of spirituality across the school so that pupils and adults can see spirituality pervades all areas of school life.</i>	

	Katherine has sent again her suggested document for the newsletter and website updating the school's approach to spirituality. How will this look in CW and in class? Richard to base his village magazine article on spirituality for the April magazine. This year there is a whole school project to create a wall hanging around light and spirituality, led by Alica Ford. We are looking forward to seeing this come to life. <i>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</i> Staff are aware of the importance of demonstrating Christianity as a global religion in CW and RE, through the music, images, prayers we use. Theological reflection – this is around the school's vision and values. James has uploaded it to the school website. It needs to be shared with governors and staff, so it is understood and owned.	KW/JO RP JO/KW KW/JO
Courageous Advocacy	Making a Difference – Agents of Change. There is a plan in place around helping the village to support wildlife – each class is tackling this in different ways. It would be good to share this through the village magazine when appropriate.	JO/KW
Date of next meeting	Monday 29 th June 2026, 1.30pm	