

**Slide 1**

----- Welcome to our presentation today. We would like to share with you how we train to be a Children's Chaplain, carry out our role in our individual schools and the impact of our role.



**Slide 2**

So.... why did we think having Children's Chaplains was a great idea?

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." In 1 Timothy 4:12

"All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children." Isaiah 54: 13



----- One of the many ways we support the spiritual development, prayer life and well-being of our schools is through our Children's Chaplains initiative. We are now in our fourth year of Children's Chaplains. You must be thinking "so what is a Children's Chaplain and what do

they do?"

----- In our multi academy trust we have 4 children from each school who are trained to take on the role of a chaplain. We are deeply passionate about the development of children's leadership skills and as we know from our research children relate to children!

----- So.... why did we think having Children's Chaplains was a great idea? We had 2 bible verses in mind when the first cohort of Chaplains worked with Canon Pilling during the pandemic.

“Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity.” In 1 Timothy 4:12

“All your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children.” Isaiah 54: 13

### Slide 3

----- In our Trust context, a Children's Chaplain is defined as an individual who contributes to the spiritual, prayer and pastoral needs of their school community. We see the nature of the Children's Chaplain to 'be there' for other children and staff, especially for those who need additional support, comfort, space for reflection/prayer or a listening ear impacting positively on mental health and well-being. Our Children's Chaplains are concerned with care for all within a school community, regardless of individuals' personal faith. Ethos Teams and Children's Chaplains will enrich the SMSC opportunities and explorations of their school

### Slide 4

#### ----- Our Missional Approach

As a Trust we believe that children have a talent to live out this role and will have an enormous positive impact on their school communities. Our Children's Chaplains will support our churches, mosques and temples, encouraging children and staff in their own spiritual journeys. The Children's Chaplaincy role is to travel alongside others and invite them into a space where they may encounter God or take another step on their spiritual journey. Our Children's Chaplains will be a positive spiritual presence in their schools and across the Trust, they will make faith more visible by using signs, symbols and art. They will support the Ethos Teams in gathering evidence on how the school's Christian values and Ethos have a positive impact on the school communities. Our Children's Chaplains and Ethos Teams will engage with faith wherever it is found. This extends even to 'faith in no Faith', to encourage discussion, acceptance and love for all. Faith, we believe, should be visible and tangible in our schools, where everyone can feel comfortable expressing and living their faith to the full.



## Children's Chaplains



Trust Initiative



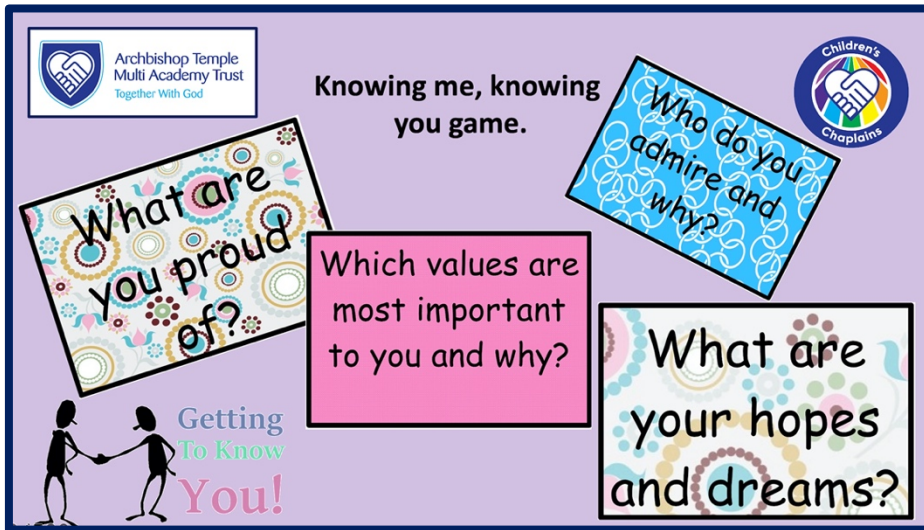


### Slide 5

We take part in a full days training every September, we would like to share with you an outline of our training day.

## Slide 6

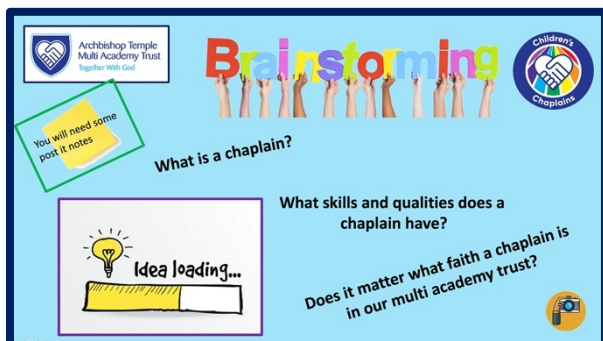
----- We When we carry out our training days we begin with one of the activities in our Ethos Books.



PLAY GAME

## Slide 7 and 8

----- We have some table tasks for you. The first is what your thoughts are on what the role of a chaplain is. These are the questions we consider at the start of our training. We will circulate and help you.



## Slide 9

----- Can we take some feedback please one idea from each table.

These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September. They have been typed exactly from our flip chart papers.

### ----- What is a Chaplain?

- A chaplain will support others.
- Listening to people's feelings.
- A chaplain is a person who helps people worship God.
- I think a chaplain is a person who tries to make the world a better place.
- I think a chaplain is a peacemaker.
- Lead worship.
- Care about other people.
- Someone who works in a chapel

- Someone who helps people.
- Speak up for people.
- 

### **What does a chaplain do?**

- Worship
- Help people
- Being a good role model.
- Ask people if they are ok.
- be thoughtful
- Setting a good example
- Care for people
- Help people through rough times.
- Lead prayer
- Charity work
- Help people to work together.
- Help people to make the right decisions.
- Make and share activities to make people feel better and get closer to God.
- Be open

### **What skills and qualities does a chaplain have?**

- Supportive
- A courageous advocate
- Loving
- Be open-minded
- Happy
- Confident
- Be brave and nice
- Trustworthy
- Being ready to make decisions
- Be a good listener
- Kindness
- Care
- Helpfulness
- Listening
- Understanding
- Working together
- Kind behaviour

### **Does it matter what faith a chaplain is in our Multi Academy trust?**

- No
- No because there are also a lot of Muslims, you can even have no religion at all.
- We are all different in our own way.
- No because everyone should be included.
- No because as a chaplain we do the same things.

*We have a hand out of all our responses that we will leave for you.*



## Slide 10

----- Our first cohort of Children's Chaplains worked with Canon Pilling to decide what we wanted the role of a Children's Chaplains in our Trust to be.

This is our role description: -

- \* To support the school to be a community of faith.
- \* To support pupils to live and grow their faith day by day.
- \* To support the school's Ethos, developing healthy relationships between all faiths and communities.
- \* To promote plan, deliver and articulate the impact of worship.
- \* To promote plan and deliver prayer activities, including prayer spaces, contributing to the prayer life of the school.
- \* To be servant leaders through pastoral support, fundraising and social action projects.
- \* To be courageous advocates.
- \* To promote positive mental health for all, offering support and guidance.
- \* To monitor the impact of class reflection areas.
- \* To support Ethos Teams and senior leaders to gather evidence of the impact of the school's Christian Ethos.
- \* To support the school's delivery of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.
- \* Being present at whole school and Trust events.
- \* To support local churches, mosques, temples and other places of worship.

## Slide 11 and 12

----- We then look at worship and our role as a Children's Chaplain  
Leading worship. What is Worship? and What do we need to include in an act of collective worship? When we plan and deliver, the best place to start is with God. We think about how we worship God, ways to develop our relationship with God, the word of God through the bible and other stories, spiritual awareness, how to develop a sense of community. We ask the question how does worship impact on our daily lives. We look for ways to develop shared values, ways to explore our individual beliefs and experience prayer. We have the next table task for you now.



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Children's Chaplains

From our role description Children's Chaplains  
\* To promote plan, deliver and articulate the impact of worship.

**Worship**

*Worship With Us*

**So.....What is worship?**

**Brainstorming**

**Idea loading...**

What do we need to include in a collective act of worship?



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**Table Task 2**

We have a recording sheet for you to jot down your ideas

### **Slide 13**

Can we take some feedback please one idea from each table.

These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September

#### **So..... What is worship?**

- I think that worship is when you pray to your God.
- A way to communicate with God.
- I think worship is a time to reflect and think about your day.
- Praise God.
- Worship is praising and thanking the Lord.
- Worship is when you pray to God.
- It is coming together and praising God.
- Getting closer to God.
- There is no right way to worship.
- Values
- Different themes
- Is a time to reflect on God and what you have done.
- Peaceful time to be together.
- Times of respectfulness for the Lord.
- Time to celebrate
- Stories in worship
- Make peace
- Sharing messages from God
- A time to talk to God, use the windows, doors and mirrors to reflect on the word of God.
- It's a time to be at peace and be calm

#### **What do we need to include in a collective act of worship?**

- Bible stories and knowledge of God.
- Songs
- Reflecting on God
- Prayer
- Reading the bible
- Light a candle
- Share stories from other faiths
- Reflect on others
- Sharing hopes for the future
- Reflect on yourself
- The cross
- be inclusive
- Reflect on values
- Videos from the bible
- Act out
- Dress up
- Ask questions about God
- Questions that can be taken back to class

- Write some reflections for them
- Get other children involved
- Do activities when we go back to class
- invite parents
- Motivational quotes
- Uplifting songs

## Slide 14 and 15

----- We discuss leading prayer. From our role description Children's Chaplains role is to promote plan and deliver prayer activities, including prayer spaces, contributing to the prayer life of the school. The next table task relates to our role in prayer.

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From our role description Children's Chaplains  
\* To promote plan and deliver prayer activities, including prayer spaces, contributing to the prayer life of the school.

**Pray**

Children's Chaplains

How do people pray?

Is there a right way to pray?

Why do we pray?

Who is responsible for prayer activities?

Where do we pray?

How do Children's Chaplains support prayers in school?

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**Table Task 3**

Children's Chaplains

We have a recording sheet for you to jot down your ideas

## Slide 16

----- Can we take some feedback please one idea from each table.

----- These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September

- There is no right way to pray because everybody expresses themselves differently.
- You can pray when you want.
- Children's Chaplains help people pray by motivating them.
- There is no right way to pray because it's a conversation with your God.
- Praying isn't about being quit.
- We can pray anywhere.
- We can pray for safety, help or we can thank the Lord.
- Leading worship.
- When different people lead worship we learn new things.
- Everyone prays differently.
- There is no exact way to pray.
- Pray at any time.
- Prayer for protection.
- To get close to our religion.
- Different positions.
- You don't have to be quiet.
- At mosque there are set times.
- Prayer leaders for prayer activities.
- Respectful.

- Praying often.
- Pray everywhere.
- At church or on your bed.
- Bishop Mark.
- To have someone to talk to
- You can pray however you want: by talking, meditating, acting or just bow your head.
- Prayer through singing
- Children's Chaplains and Ethos Leaders.
- I sing songs before praying and we also read the bible.
- We pray to praise God.
- Different places of worship.
- Everyone is responsible for prayer activities.
- To speak to God.
- To be with God.
- We can pray to thank God for everything he has done.
- People pray calmly or as a celebration.
- Silently or out loud.
- Print off sheet with prayers on it.
- Churches or our house.
- Talk to God.
- When you need something.
- You could make it more fun.
- We pray for thankfulness.

## Slide 17 and 18

----- Serving and keeping safe. We discussed serving others in our schools and the importance of keeping ourselves safe. From our role description Children's Chaplains

\* To be servant leaders through pastoral support, fundraising and social action projects.

\* To be courageous advocates.

The next table task relates to our role in service.

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Children's Chaplains

Find yourself in the service to others  
- Mahatma Gandhi

What do we do if something concerns you?

Why is it important to support others?

How can we keep safe when helping others?

How do we support others with resolving conflict?

How do we use our listening skills?

How as Children's Chaplains do we model behaviour?

What do we look out for?

Only a life lived in the service to others is a life that counts.

Peer Mediation

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Children's Chaplains

We have a recording sheet for you to jot down your ideas

## Slide 19

----- Can we take some feedback please one idea from each table.

----- These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September

- We use our listening skills by understanding other people and sharing each other's opinions.
- Give them my stress bear.



- Keep eye contact.
- Sensible.
- Be a good role model.
- Caring and loving to make people better.
- Stick with an adult.
- Saying the right words.
- Talk to them about all of our Christian values and also model that behaviour by using them.
- We can support others with resolving conflict by talking to them and telling them not to do it again.
- If I didn't help others they would feel down and sad.
- I would talk to the children to stop and forgive each other just like our school value.
- It is important to support others because we need to be a role model and also help others. I would represent our values.
- Use our eyes
- Be caring and don't be a bystander.
- We need to make sure when we hear something concerning we tell an adult to keep ourselves out of trouble as well.
- Listening to other children.
- Worried people.
- Looking out for people's facial expressions and behaviour.
- It is important because if we don't support them and calm them down things might get serious and out of control.
- Tell a trusted adult.
- We would show the best behaviour.
- help people that are in an argument.
- Take back packs to Max club
- Looking for people on their own.
- To make others feel important.
- By not interrupting and letting people speak.
- To listen to others and make suggestions.
- We look out for children.
- To make others feel welcome.
- So people aren't afraid.

## Slide 20 and 21

----- Spirituality and Mental Health. From our role description Children's Chaplains

\* To promote positive mental health for all, offering support and guidance.

\* To support the school's delivery of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.

The next table task relates to our role in promoting spirituality and good mental health.



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### Spirituality & Mental Health

**CREATING ROCKS**

**OW! Moments in life.**  
Finding the extraordinary in the ordinary.

**WOW! Moments in life.**  
Relationships with other children and adults.


**Definition.**  
MUSIC

**What is spiritual development?**  
From our role description Children's Chaplains.  
\* To promote positive mental health for all, offering support and guidance.  
\* To support the school's delivery of spiritual, moral, social and cultural education.

**Time with God.**  
GRAFI TIME


**How does spiritual development support our mental health?**



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### Table Task 5



We have a recording sheet for you to jot down your ideas

## Slide 22

Can we take some feedback please one idea from each table.

These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September

- If you have a peaceful time you will spread peace into the world.
- Spirituality is being connected with you God. It is also about fellowship. Big trips in Edinburgh – WOW moment. An Ow moment can be when you feel guilty or upset. Spiritual development can help with our mental health because when you feel upset you can tell God your feelings and that relaxes your mind and makes you feel happy. You can learn new things when you have relationships with other children and adults.
- I think spiritual development means when your mental health grows.
- Reminds us that there is hope in belonging to God.
- It keeps us calm and connected to God.
- It helps us to affirm ourselves and say positive things.
- Today (Children's Chaplains) has been a WOW moment.
- It keeps us positive.
- To develop your spirituality you could connect with God through prayers, music, singing and reading.
- It keeps negative thoughts away.
- It keeps us strong.
- Reflect what's happening in life, makes us feel better.
- I think spiritual development is when you develop your beliefs, ideas and mental health.
- Spiritual development keeps us alive.
- The definition is the way your mental health works.
- Spiritual development keeps us going.
- It keeps us brave and strong.
- Spiritual development develops our mental health to become better and calms us.
- When you pray.
- Grow your mind set.
- WOW moments.
- When I first got to gold.
- Give love.
- Developing in life.
- When you think of people who have passed away.
- Having mindfulness.
- When I get 40/40 in my tests.
- Helps deal with your emotions.
- Growing up and becoming your own person.
- Develop of our soul.
- Mental health, part of being happy.
- The spiritual development which you evolve from the body and the soul.
- Spiritual development t helps deal with your mental health.

## Slide 23

We discussed serving the wider community and fundraising. These are collated answers we typed up from our last training day in September

- To give them the right information.
- It brings us closer to God.
- Ideas of different charities to choose.

- Yes to motivate people.
- So others don't think we are selfish.
- Dance show to raise money for charity.
- Drawing competition.
- Look to your community to make a change.
- Think about others' community.
- Make a difference to someone's life
- We will choose what is important for our community.
- A role model to show good behaviour.
- Help people who are in need.
- As Children's chaplains we would share ideas about what we will do.
- It is important we think of others not ourselves and it also helps with their lives.
- We will talk to people about it and see their decision.
- We will go around asking people and taking notes.
- Doing things that will change other peoples lives by not being selfish and giving things we don't need away.
- We make lives better.
- It makes you grateful.
- We let people vote.
- Act like researchers and Chaplains.
- To follow the rules and do good for the community.
- Welcome role.
- Ethos Cabin

#### **Slide 24**

----- At the end of our initial training day Revd Ian came in and commissioned us to go out in our schools to carry out our role.

#### **Slide 25**

----- Each of us were given a backpack filled with different resources that help us carry out our role. (demonstrate)

#### **Slide 26**

----- We meet to discuss the impact of children's chaplains in our own schools. Here are some of the areas that we have seen impact of our role

- \* children coming to faith
- \* train prayer space leaders in our individual schools
- \* Children feel they have someone to talk to – children relate to children
- \* Adults feel valued e.g. we have left just to say hearts
- \* Children who are vulnerable or have additional needs are included more
- \* Children have learned strategies to help them reflect and pray
- \* We have developed our leadership skills as leaders in school
- \* We have delivered worship to our schools to explain our role
- \* Children talk about God more and reflect/ pray more during the day
- \* We have supported children who have had bereavements, feel unhappy to try to bring a little bit of joy into their lives and let them know that God loves them.

#### **Slide 26**

----- Here are a few quotes we have gathered from our children and adults.

- \* I have used my poppets at home to calm down and talk to God.

- \* I felt sad and the Children's Chaplains helped me to have a more positive attitude.
- \* Children's Chaplains helped me to sort out an argument with my friend.
- \* I have used the things in the backpack to talk to God.
- \* It is ok to talk about God.
- \* Children's Chaplains gave me ideas to help me keep calm when I am angry.
- \* I can go to a Children's Chaplain and play games.



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Children's  
Chaplains

## What is the impact of our role?



**MAKE DIFFERENCE**

I have used my poppets at home to calm down and talk to God.

I felt sad and the Children's Chaplains helped me to have a more positive attitude.

Children's Chaplains helped me to sort out an argument with my friend.

I have used the things in the backpack to talk to God.



It is ok to talk about God.

Children's Chaplains gave me ideas to help me keep calm when I am angry.

I can go to a Children's Chaplain and play games.

**WE BELIEVE IN MAKING DIFFERENCE**

We have also reported the impact of our role to our multi academy Trust Board.



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## Any Questions?



