

Information
for churches

Inspire Prayer Spaces enables Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils to explore **values, faith and spirituality** from a broadly Christian perspective in a safe, creative and interactive way.

Working in partnership with local churches, Inspire brings a range of flexible resources and stations to transform a school hall, classroom or church into a sanctuary of calm. Each station has a theme which encourages pupils to consider their **own views, beliefs, emotions and experiences** in a safe environment. Previous themes have included Christmas, The Lord's Prayer, Easter, as well as school values such as hope or community.

The day was truly inspirational. The effect of walking into the room was particularly striking, despite the variety of prayer activities, you'd managed to create a distinct atmosphere in the room, quite tangible and arresting as you moved from the corridor. It felt calm and reverent, and you could sense in the way the children responded that they were benefiting from something more than just the objects and the words. It was really useful for me to be able to attend to see what new ideas about prayer the children might be encountering, and to refer to, or weave them into assemblies and other interactions with the children. The children aren't afraid of prayer, to me that's such an important gift to have acquired at that age. I pray in turn that they'll never lose it. – Church leader

Fizzy forgiveness tablets is like my sadness melting away, all my worries are going when I'm watching it dissolve. – KS2 student



Prayer spaces can be adapted to the space available, in a church or school setting



Prayer spaces are **welcoming to all children** whatever their beliefs or cultural backgrounds. Although rooted in broadly Christian traditions of prayer, a prayer space will allow children to respond individually and to draw their own conclusions.

Prayer Spaces make a recognised contribution to **pupils' learning, spiritual development and well-being**. Links can be made to:

- RE curriculum topics – exploring the life of Jesus, key festivals in the Christian calendar and investigating why and how Christians pray.
- SMSC (spiritual, moral, social and cultural development) – encouraging pupils to reflect on their experiences thus fostering a desire to explore their own and others' views.
- Well-being – a space for calm reflection, giving an opportunity to explore themes such as bereavement and loss, and encouraging children to talk about difficult issues.



Prayer Spaces can also help to **strengthen links between the church and school**. By working together, GenR8 and local church volunteers can provide an opportunity for children to experience the Christian faith and prayer in a creative and interactive way.



Part of the Prayer Spaces in Schools regional Network

Cost: £100 per day; local churches may choose to help meet the costs.

For more details see www.genr8.org or contact us to find out more inspire@genr8.org

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