



SCM Schools

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Southampton City Mission (SCM) has been delivering schools work for over 20 years. We have an excellent track record of working flexibly with schools to serve their needs. We recognise that RE is unlike any other curriculum subject. It is not like Maths, Science, or Literacy; RE is a Question of Faith!

We offer free support and services, ranging from Assemblies for the whole school to Question of Faith days for individual year groups, all designed to support a school's RE, SMSC, PSHE, and Collective Worship requirements.



Assemblies

Our Schools Team love to lead Assemblies and Collective Worship; in fact our schools work actually began with an Assembly in a local Primary School almost 30 years ago!

"You were amazing today... The children loved it, the teachers loved it, I loved it, and it was really memorable."

Collective Worship Coordinator

These shorter visits to schools are always engaging and interactive, normally involving a question or two for pupils to consider, a story to join in with, visual aids and props, as well as time for reflection and response.

Although our most popular bookings for Assemblies & Collective Worship visits happen at Harvest, Christmas, Easter, and Summer, many schools also invite us to visit at other points throughout the academic year, to provide input on various SMSC & PSHE topics such as British Values, SEAL Themes, or Relational Concepts.

We aim to be as flexible as possible in the way that we support schools, so are happy for our involvement in your Assembly / Collective Worship times to be as short or as long as required, fitting in around other staff-led activities as necessary.



Throughout the COVID-19 crisis lockdown and beyond, we have broadcast both live & pre-recorded Online Assemblies which we call "Thoughts at Three". We now have an archive of over 70 of these Online Assemblies, available to watch via our YouTube channel and Facebook page.

Question of Faith

RE might not be everyone's favourite subject, but we think it is one of the most interesting and important parts of the school curriculum! That's because what we choose to believe about ourselves, those around us, and the world at large, can significantly impact our whole lives.

"The children learnt so much through games, craft, writing, story telling and a treasure hunt. We were very pleased with the children's insightful reflections and spirituality."

RE Lead & Year 1 Teacher

Our Question of Faith sessions explore a Christianity topic from the locally agreed RE syllabus, with a whole year group over a whole or half day. These longer experiences in schools allow pupils to explore together what "real, live" Christians believe about a particular theme, through a range of fun, dynamic activities including games, stories, quizzes, illusions, drama, puzzles, writing, music, drawing, craft, and so on.

Each session includes a "Question Time", which gives an opportunity for pupils to thoughtfully reflect on the things they have learned, and pose any questions that they still have to a member of the visiting Schools Team.

We are very clear to explain that every child has a right to choose their own faith, and that we have been invited into the school to explain what that means for Christians, rather than to enforce any belief.

We are happy to base our Question of Faith sessions around Units from the Living Difference and Understanding Christianity syllabuses, as well as any other Christian themes or concepts.

Our Question of Faith sessions are best suited to an in-person, team-led visit on site at your school. However, we can also provide Online Learning Packs which contain self-guided resources tailored to a specific Christian topic.



Prayer Spaces

Prayer spaces enable children and young people, of all faiths and none, to explore life's questions, spirituality and faith in a safe, creative, and interactive way.

"Children were engaged, they had ownership of prayer spaces, and there was a clear feeling of inclusion for children of different religions."

Year 6 Teacher



Taking a broadly Christian perspective as a starting point, prayer spaces give children and young people an opportunity to develop skills of personal reflection and to explore prayer in an open, inclusive and safe environment.

A prayer space is usually (but not always) a classroom sized area that has been transformed for an afternoon, a few days, or a week with a range of creative activities that encourage personal reflection on issues such as forgiveness, injustice, thankfulness, big questions, identity, and stillness.

With the support of an SCM Team Leader, a Prayer Space can be created by either a small group of pupils (such as a schools' Spiritual Council) or by a whole year group (often as part of their Question of Faith day.)

At SCM, we are happy to set up a Prayer Space for your school, as either a temporary or more permanent fixture. Alternatively we can work with pupils in designing and creating their own Prayer Space. This gives pupils ownership over the space and responsibility in guiding their peers through times of prayer and reflection.

Our Prayer Spaces follow the values outlined by 'Prayer Spaces in Schools', providing activities and resources to complement a schools' SMSC and RE provision.



Grow Communities

Grow Communities are all about helping children and young people flourish in their faith in ways that work for them!

"We've loved the Grow Community being part of the spiritual development of our children. The variety of activities offered to the children through singing, art, craft, and stories has really captured them. Thank you so much for being part of their journey!"

RE Lead



Our Schools Team has had feedback from both pupils and staff on many occasions that while our 'Question of Faith' RE sessions are excellent, there isn't always the time during these visits for a more in-depth exploration of faith and spirituality.

This is something we know that schools have been interested in pursuing for some time, but which we have unfortunately not been able to accommodate, until now!

A 'Grow Community' might function like a mini 'Question of Faith' session, where pupils would have the opportunity to explore the Christian faith through stories, games, and crafts, etc. but it would ultimately be shaped by the pupils for their peers.

This peer-shaped, peer-served, but adult-guided 'Grow Community' could look like a weekly lunch-time club or after-school group, which would help the children or young people who attend to explore and flourish in their Christian faith.

As a Local Mission Partner with Scripture Union, we've launched 'Grow Communities' in Schools across the Southampton region. Scripture Union has seen lots of evidence that children and young people thrive in relevant and culturally appropriate worshipping communities that are designed around them, their needs, and their interests.



CAP Money

Specifically tailored for schools, CAP Money Kids & CAP Money Youth has been developed with teachers to equip the next generation with essential skills to ensure they are wise about money in the future.

"The two sessions were amazing. This really added to our PSHE curriculum and brought alive the importance of budgeting and being good stewards of their money."

Head of PSHE, Citizenship & RSE



These workshops are designed to meet the curriculum's requirements for children and young people across the Key Stages. The course is very interactive with a range of activities that includes stories, quizzes, games, group work, and real life situations.

Sessions cover topics such as budgeting, saving, and spending. It also touches on numeracy, PSHE and life skills, as well as developing teamwork and problem solving skills.

We offer CAP Money sessions as either a 1 day course or 2 shorter workshops. We have different programmes suitable for: KS1 (Year 1 pupils), Upper KS2 (Year 5/6 pupils), and KS4 (Year 10/11 pupils). For all ages, CAP Money sessions get pupils thinking about the importance of money and to introduce them to the concept of budgeting.

The hope is to sow some seeds at an early age about:

- How you can earn money
- The difference between being employed, self employed, on benefits and retired
- How you spend money
- The difference between needs and wants
- How to create a budget
- What if you don't have enough money

CAP Money is a course designed by the award-winning charity Christians Against Poverty (CAP) that currently teaches basic money management skills to over 10,000 people a year across the UK through their CAP Money Course. Our session is led by an SCM Team Leader and CAP Money Coach.

christians
against
poverty

CAP