

We want to start by thanking every adult caring for children and young people – parents, carers, aunts, uncles, grandparents, brothers, sisters – you are all involved and we thank you. Please watch and share this film with your community which simply thanks you for all you are doing. It is titled '[Thank you, you're enough](#)'.

Pause for thought: What is 'home'?

Home is both a place and a feeling. It is where we eat, where we sleep, where we find ourselves at the start and end of our day. Home is where we can feel the strongest sense of belonging, where we can feel connected to 'our people', where we can feel part of 'our tribe'. It can also be a place of doubt, questions, loneliness or fear. While talking about being the vine, Jesus invites us to stay connected together with him and each other. (John 15:1-4). '**Remain in me, as I also remain in you. No branch can bear fruit by itself; it must remain in the vine. Neither can you bear fruit unless you remain in me.**' We are invited to imagine that we are sharing our everyday lives with each other and with God, intertwined by love as a community of growing faith. People express faith in many different ways – words, singing, music and art – how do you express your beliefs? Can you try something new during this time?

What is 'Faith at Home'?

[Faith at Home](#) is a national campaign, in collaboration with [Oak National Academy](#), to support the faith development, spiritual development and pastoral care of children and young people.

It seeks to provide:

- Experiences that inspire parents and families to grow in faith together in the 'new daily normal' of the home.
- Resources that equip children and young people to explore faith together and feel supported pastorally as part of school and church communities.
- Networks that connect school leaders, church leaders and chaplains to share great practice and build community together focused on the faith development of children and young people.

Over the summer term, content linked to key themes will be released each week to support families, school leaders and church leaders. The first theme is 'hope'. This will go live on 7th May.

Here's a taster of some of the resources on offer and two questions to consider as we begin to think about what welcoming all pupils back to school might look like:

Our full day course '**Developing Children's Spirituality**' is being held on 19th October 2020, further details and [booking through Eventbrite is available now](#).

1: How might we support pupils at school and home to create their own spaces for prayer and reflection?

['Prayer Spaces in Schools'](#) has some great advice and simple prayer activities that pupils can use (and have ownership of) in school and home. What emphasis should we place on this when pupils return to school? Could spaces for prayer and reflection support mental health and help some pupils to feel connected to school again?

2: What is the place of spiritual development in school and home?

Dr Rebecca Nye talks about the acronym 'SPIRIT' as a way to think about how we create space for pupils' spiritual development.

S: Space to 'be' (physical, emotional and auditory)

P: Process (it's about journey, not destination)

I: Imagination (there are no 'definite' answers)

R: Relationships (spirituality requires connection)

I: Intimacy (a safe space to express ideas)

T: Trust (being comfortable with different kinds of 'knowing')

[To find out more here's a short guide about spirituality and space. \(rootsontheweb.com\)](#)

Digging Deeper:

- Faith at Home (website – school leader section)
- The Spirit of the Child Hay, D., (Jessica Kingsley Publishers, 2006)
- [Worship for Everyone](#) (Looking to the Rainbow – with resources for schools to perform their own version of the song.)
- [Prayer Space in School](#) (website supporting prayer spaces at home and school)