



Religious Education Policy

Ratification date:	June 2021
Committee:	Leadership and Management Committee
Chair of Governors:	Susan Day
Head Teacher:	Nuala Ferguson
Review Date:	June 2023

1. VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to work together in the way of Christ, to develop learners who are respectful, responsible, educated young people who will contribute positively to the world and the global community and grow with a faith that will underpin their whole lives.

'Christ at the heart of all we do'

It is the gift of Christian faith to know that God speaks to us in the person of Jesus Christ. We chose 'Christ at the heart of all we do', for Christ is the one who not only shows us the truth about God but also the truth about ourselves. Christ is indeed at the centre of education at St Anne's. To put Christ at the heart of all we do means we integrate the gospel values and the teachings of the Catholic Church into every aspect of learning, teaching and the totality of school life. In our school, our children's journey towards adulthood will also be a journey of faith.



2. IMPLEMENTATION – POLICY INTO PRACTICE

As Parents, Staff and Governors

"We plant the seeds that one day will grow.

We water seeds already planted,

Knowing that they hold future promise.

We are prophets of a future not our own."

(Oscar Romero)

Implementation of the Mission Statement through this R.E. policy is supported by the following elements:

3. TIME ALLOCATION

If we consider the current hours/week for each key stage we can establish approximately how much actual time is to be allocated:

Key Stage 1 - 21.5 hrs/wk Therefore 10% for R.E. - 2hrs 10mins

Key Stage 2 - 23.5 hrs/wk Therefore 10% for R.E. - 2hrs 20mins

4. RATIONALE

Religious Education in our school is based on the Gospel values and teachings of the Catholic Church. We aim to develop a strong awareness of the spiritual dimensions of life amongst our pupils and to equip them with Christian values which will guide them throughout their lives.

5. SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

The children in Year 3 are prepared for the sacraments of Forgiveness and the Eucharist through the Parish of St Anne's with instruction from catechists, with links to the Way, the Truth and the Life scheme of work in school, particularly in the Year 3 units of 'The Sacrament of Reconciliation' and 'Celebrating the Mass'. This preparation further encourages the close link between the school, the home and the parish. Prayer and Liturgy take place



each day, giving the children the opportunity to come together to listen, reflect and pray. Children are led in prayers throughout the day by their class teachers or peers. Children and staff attend St. Anne's church for Mass at least once a half term and the parish priest and deacon make regular visits to school

6. AIMS

The aims of Religious Education at St. Anne's are:

- to lead each child to love and respect God and one another and themselves, in partnership with parents and the priest,
- to promote a loving and secure environment where children can learn to become aware of the mystery of life through their own experiences.
- to develop knowledge and understanding of Catholicism within Christianity and other major world religions and values.
- to develop an understanding of religious traditions and to appreciate the cultural differences in Britain today.
- to awaken a sense of responsibility for those who are less fortunate than themselves, through links with charitable organisations.
- to have respect for others and their values and opinions

7. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Religious Education at St. Anne's are that the children will:

- develop a sense of awe and wonder for the marvels of creation.
- develop a relationship with God our Father, with Jesus and with the Holy Spirit.
- develop an appreciation of the sanctity of the Eucharist.
- develop the ability to pray and reflect in a variety of situations.
- through the sacraments, increase their love and knowledge of God.
- develop a willingness and enthusiasm to participate in Prayer and Liturgy and the Liturgical Celebrations.
- come to know Our Lady.
- develop self-discipline based on sound Christian moral principles.



- develop a sense of responsibility towards themselves and others.
- experience the joy and happiness of living in a community based on the teaching of Christ.

8. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

R.E seeks to develop all pupils. Within every aspect of school life, we are committed to celebrating difference and to offering equal opportunities to all. These are inherent in topics explored, where children have the opportunity to share, learn about and experience key aspects of the diverse world in which we live.

9. RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CURRICULUM

Teachers provide the children with the necessary opportunities to achieve the appropriate outcomes as outlined in The Religious Education Curriculum Directory for Catholic Schools. Staff use diocesan guidelines and advice in using "The Way The Truth and The Life" scheme to cover the Directory's programmes of study, with additional appropriate and enhancing materials gathered through CPD.

Children develop skills, attitudes and values through:

Regular staff CPD from the RE Coordinator, Head and Deputy Headteachers and from the Diocese.

10. THE RE PROGRAMME

The school uses 'The Way, The Truth and The Life' programme for Religious Education. The programme operates a yearly cycle of themes /topics which each year group follows.

The pupils use a text book from Y1 to Y6. In FS they follow a scheme designed to build the foundation stones for entry into WTL as recommended by the Diocese.

Planning for continuity, progression and coverage is done by teachers and the scheme's support materials provided by the Diocesan RE Team.

Differentiation

Activities, worksheets, prayers and stories are supported and are appropriate to the age range. The teacher uses his/her discretion within their children's experiences and needs and differentiates the tasks appropriately.



SEND

Children with additional needs will be given access to the RE Curriculum as appropriate and with tasks suitably differentiated to allow satisfactory progression.

Pupil's Progress

Assessments are carried out in line with the Diocesan Guidelines. Children are assessed throughout the topic in a variety of ways; Teacher observation, recorded work, practical tasks, formal assessments, speaking and listening tasks. Teachers use 'I Can' Statements and diocesan support materials to record a 'best-fit' level on the school's tracking form at the end of each term. Teachers moderate work from 'Indicator Children' at least twice each year.

Progress in RE is reported to parents on the end of year report.

Marking and Feedback

Teachers will use marking in RE books to support the learning objectives for each lesson.

Teachers will give formal and informal feedback to children on their performance and the ways they can improve during or after the lesson.

Teachers will mark positively and constructively. Marking will aim to give children advice on how they might improve their work.

Marking in RE books will not normally be used to improve children's literacy skills. The focus will always be on the religious content with particular reference to the learning objective. However, spellings and grammar might be corrected occasionally, especially if key vocabulary is involved (e.g. Jesus, God).

11. RESOURCES

Resources, information and artefacts to support RE teaching are to be found within each class and also in the RE Resource Drawers in the Main Hall. All documentation and paper files are kept by the RE Lead and Head Teacher in files and on the school server



12. SUPPORT

Support is available to all colleagues from the RE Lead, SLT and mentors.

Staff Development / INSET

The R.E Coordinator keeps up to date with changes and developments in RE, attending RE Coordinator and Hub meetings. The RE lead is also a member of the Diocesan Primary RE Working Party.

All staff attend relevant Diocesan INSET programmes.



14. DOCUMENT HISTORY

The following version control must be included on all policies to capture updates/reviews etc.

Date	Version	Notes
June 21	Draft 1	Initial draft shared with full governing Body and approved