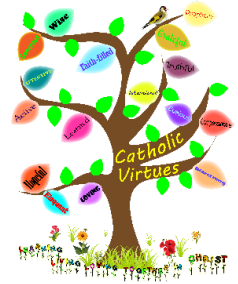




## RE & Collective Worship Policy

**Know more**  
**Remember more**



### 1. Mission:

On the Last day of Year 6 these are the things we want most for our children as they walk through the school gates for the last time. Their Relationship with Jesus has blossomed; our children are enriched with a whole raft of new experiences, memories that will last a lifetime; That our children are vocational, thinking about themselves and their place in the world, thinking about the gifts and talents, the interests and skills that God has blessed them with.

### 2. Aims of Religious Education:

All of our children are given the opportunity to develop their spiritual, academic, social, moral and cultural growth within a caring Catholic environment where life is centred on Christ's teaching. Each child is encouraged to achieve their God-given potential. We want our children to have an awareness of God's presence in their lives and the life of the community, by helping them to know and love God and to respond to God's invitation to enter into a personal relationship with Him through reflection, prayer, worship and celebration.

We aim to provide teaching according to the Catholic faith, where the Gospel of Christ is at the heart of school life and the opportunities for a continuing and deepening experience of Christ through prayer and the sacraments are developed.

We aim to work in partnership with the home and parish to create a Catholic Community and to foster education and faith development outside the school.

We aim to promote an awareness, understanding and respect for other religious beliefs and an appreciation of human achievement and aspirations from many cultures.

### 3. Entitlement & Provision:

RE accounts for 10% of the teaching curriculum. The 10% relates to 'curriculum time', which is the time allocated for the taught curriculum of Religious Education. This 10% is provided each and every week of the school year. It does not include time committed to activities such as assemblies, hymn practice, PSHE, RSHE, preparation & attendance at Mass etc.

In Ks2 & KS1 RE is taught over two sessions and in the Early Years it is taught as a discrete subject

### 4. The Scheme of Work for RE:

The Diocesan RE Scheme "*Learning and Growing as the People of God*". It provides progression throughout the School within the key areas of Revelation, Church, Celebration and Life in Christ.

## 1. Revelation:

- To understand the importance of story in the human quest for meaning and the scripture as expression of how we try to understand the nature of God.
- To consider the personal and the community response to God.
- To consider the sacred writings of other faith communities.

## 2. Church:

- Belonging to a community at various levels.
- That having been created in the image of the True God we are called to be that community which is the Church.
- Church is a witness to the Good News of Jesus.
- Relationships between the Catholic Church and other denominations and faiths.

## 3. Life in Christ:

- Values which underpin beliefs and action in the human family.
- Following Christ is a call to holiness.
- Reflecting the values which Christ expressed in his life and teaching.
- Explore the values and way of life of other world faiths.

## 4. Celebration

- Celebrations which mark the development and growth of each person.
- Spiritual growth and development is rooted in the church's sacramental life which is expressed in sign and symbol throughout the liturgical year.
- The place of prayer in the life of the Catholic Community Knowledge and understanding of prayer in other faiths.

The children are taught about Our Lady and St Rose and about our House Saints: St Bernadette, St John Paul II, St Oscar Romero and St Teresa of Calcutta.

We fully embrace the Catholic Virtues (*Catholic School Pupil Profile*) promoting them daily in class and in all assemblies and by choosing children from each year group, each half term, who have "lived" out the virtues.

Our "School Prayer" is displayed in the hall and is part of our assemblies each week,

We have good links with our parish, and we attend mass regularly as a whole school. Fr Gary is our Vice Chair of Governors and we see him regularly in school.

## 5. Sacramental Education:

As we follow the Diocesan RE scheme, the sacraments are fully taught and celebrated through the whole school. Specific training is also given in Years Three and Six as the time for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Communion and Confirmation approach.

We work in partnership with the parish and there is an expectation that parents and children of sacramental children attend mass regularly as part of their preparation. The children have books to work through which Fr Gary produced and he stamps each week for children who bring them to mass.

## 6. Other Faiths and Religions:

We aim to promote an awareness, understanding and respect for other religious beliefs and an appreciation of human achievement and aspirations from many cultures.

Multi-cultural education in our school will be based on Christian principles and reflects the respect that Christ showed for people, regardless of race or cultural background.

The study of other faiths is built into the R.E. Scheme with the aim of enabling children to appreciate, understand and respect the beliefs of others while gaining in knowledge and appreciation of their own Catholic faith.

We live in a multi-cultural, multi-faith society. Our school must strive to fulfil its function of preparing our children for life in this multi-cultural society.

## 7. The Catholic Curriculum:

Expectations for work in RE books is the same as the work in the children's English books. Religious education contributes significantly to the teaching of English in our school by actively promoting the skills of reading, writing speaking and listening. Some of the texts that we use in English lessons have religious themes or content, which

encourages discussion, and this is RE's way of promoting the skills of speaking and listening. We also encourage the children to write letters and record information, in order to develop their writing ability.

## 8. Planning:

We plan and prepare for RE lessons based on our knowledge rich planning for the foundation areas. Knowledge organisers are prepared for all RE units and the children use them to learn, practice and retain key vocabular, key facts and key people. This helps with the unit markers as the knowledge on them is similar/the same as on the knowledge organisers.

### Long-term Planning

The long-term plan maps the religious education topics studied each term during each key stage. This long-term plan is based on the Diocesan Curriculum Strategy and is the responsibility of the RE co-ordinator to ensure the units are covered correctly in the class rooms (see the table at the end of this document).

### Medium/Short-term Planning

Medium-term planning is laid out in units in the Curriculum strategy "*Learning and Growing as the People of God*".

Medium/Short-term planning is the responsibility of the class teacher who is encouraged to use a wide range of resources to implement their planning based on the curriculum strategy. We use the planning format suggested by the Diocese, which includes ensuring opportunities for prayer.

## 9. Equal Opportunities & SEND:

RE lessons and activities from the scheme will be planned and differentiated sufficiently to allow all children to work at their own ability level and access the curriculum, including extending the most able.

Sacramental programmes, liturgical occasions and curriculum planning should encompass the needs of all pupils from the outset and consider a range of differing needs and abilities

## 10. Marking & Feedback, Assessment, Recording and Reporting:

The assessment of individual pupils in RE is the responsibility of the class teacher.

Teachers use "live marking" to assess and support children in their learning. At least once a week a child will have an "I wonder..." to respond to. This is a chance for a child to respond in a deeper, more meaningful, more knowledgeable way, to the lesson's objective. It gives the teacher an opportunity to assess more deeply the child's response to their RE lessons.

The teacher uses **The Unit Markers** to assess learning from previous years/units (in relation to the current unit and at the end of a unit to assess learning and knowledge.

The teacher will assess each unit of work in RE using the "**Age Related Standards**" from the Diocesan Strategy and highlighting which groups of children have achieved a particular level of attainment.

Teachers use the Diocesan assessment recording sheets to indicate whether each child is at, below, or exceeding in each unit. This information enables the assessment coordinator to break the data down into the various groups. Teachers then analyse their class/group data. The RE coordinator draws up a summary of the whole school assessment and shares it with the staff, this enables staff to develop RE skills / knowledge in a targeted manner.

Religious Education is the first point of feedback on our end of year reports where an assessment of the child's progress and attainment is made and a level of effort for how the child has responded to their RE lessons over the year.

### **11. Monitoring and Evaluation:**

There is a yearly program of monitoring which the RE Lead and Head teacher create and implement. This includes (but is not an exhaustive list): monitoring books, planning and lessons; talks with children to ascertain their progress, involvement in and enjoyment of, RE lessons; prayer areas, displays (in the classroom and corridors); collective worship/prayer (in lessons) etc.

Each term a report is completed for the governors and presented by the RE Lead at the Full Governing Body meeting where the governors are able to ask questions. We have a RE link governor, who the RE Lead is in contact with regularly with updates and monitoring feedback.

### **12. Resources:**

#### **RE Resource Area**

This is situated in the main corridor and contains resources for Religious Education and Personal Social and Health Education. The RE section contains books for supporting Mass/Assembly/Liturgy Preparation, Saints, Old Testament, New Testament, Parables, Mary, Life of Jesus and Bible stories. There is also a small section of materials on different world religions, including a variety of posters to support lessons, assemblies and liturgies. There are materials supporting the different feasts of the liturgical year and the life of Jesus. This also contains poster packs and notes on a variety of different world religions including Christianity, Judaism, Islam, Sikhism, Rastafarianism, Greek Orthodox, Buddhism, and Hinduism.

#### **Classroom**

Each class has: Bibles, crucifixes, statues and prayer tablecloths for each colour of the liturgical year. KS1 and EYFS have The Storyteller Bible and Year 2 and KS2 have Phase sets of The Catholic Children's Bible.

Year 3 have resources for the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Year 6 have resources for the Sacrament of Confirmation, ie. books about the lives of saints, iPads for research etc.

#### **Liturgy Cupboard**

The liturgy cupboard is situated by the school hall and acts as a prayer focus for the whole school in the liturgical year. It contains resources for Mass/Liturgy and Assembly preparation.

### **13. RE Displays**

Each classroom has a RE focus display which is updated termly and in-line with the church's year.

A main focus of RE displays will be the Catholic Virtues. This will complement the focus of assemblies, reflections, parent workshops etc. which will also focus on the Catholic Virtues.

### **14. The Role of the Religious Education Leader**

Refer to JOB DESCRIPTION - RE CURRICULUM SUBJECT LEADER IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## 15. Health & Safety

The school's Health and Safety Policy applies to all aspects of R.E. teaching. Staff should note:

- when using candles it is important that children must never be left alone with lit candles or allowed to light them or blow them out unsupervised.
- incense and scented candles add greatly to a quiet meditative environment, but it must be remembered that children with asthma may find this uncomfortable.

## 16. Legal Right of Withdrawal

Parents are permitted to request that their child is withdrawn from receiving all or part of religious education and/or collective worship given at the school and any such request shall stand until such time that the parent's request is withdrawn.

## 17. Link Governors

Catholic Life, RE & Collective Worship link governors: Fr Gary Buckby, Mrs Angela Backen & Mrs Anna Murphy our.

## 18. Review date

This RE policy will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Reviewed: **March 2024**

Mrs F Foley:  (Chair of Governors)