



St Mary's RC Primary School

RE Policy

Mission Statement

All are welcome here to walk with Jesus as we love, learn and flourish.

RE Policy Introduction

At St Mary's we strive to deliver a high-quality RE education which will help pupils to become religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills – appropriate to their age and capacity – to reflect spiritually, and think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life.

Aims

- To ensure all staff, children, parents/carers and Governors are aware of the aims for learning and teaching RE at St Mary's RC Primary School and that these are consistently applied.
- St Mary's acknowledges that Religious Education is a lifelong process and recognises that the primary years are significant in the lasting impression they make upon our children.
- Religious Education in school is concerned with children understanding mankind's search for meaning, value and purpose in life.
- The religions of the world are classic expressions of this search and, for many people, provide the context within which the experience is to be understood.
- Through his or her understanding of this search, the child is helped towards a deeper awareness of their identity enabling him/her to grow and develop freely in a world of divergent beliefs and values.
- Education is concerned with the development of understanding. Religious Education is concerned with the development of the understanding of religion as a significant area of human experience.

"Understanding" is used in a wide sense, being concerned with feeling and empathetic insight as well as an intellectual grasp of certain information. The child is not simply learning about religion, they are learning from it.

Parents and Carers:

Will be:

- Given termly curriculum overviews which inform them of the topics covered in class, as well as ways they can support their child's learning.
- Given the Wednesday Word each week so they can share the message of the Gospel with their children
- Given an opportunity to give support/input with their child's RE homework.
- Given weekly newsletters
- Given a verbal report on their child's RE development during Parents' Evenings.
- Given a written report on their child's RE development at the end of the year.
- Given opportunities to support their child during First Holy Communion preparation by attending meetings and working at home on aspects of the programme
- Given opportunities to be involved in all charity activities during the year for school or for the wider community.

Governors

School has a designated link governor who will:

- Meet with the RE Subject Leader at least once a year to find out about:
- The school's systems for planning work, supporting staff and monitoring progress;
- The allocation, use and adequacy of resources;
- How the standards of achievement are changing over time.
- Visit School and talk to pupils about their experiences of RE
- Take part in lesson observations or planned RE activities in school;
- Promote and support the positive involvement of parents in
- Attend training and other events relating to the RE curriculum;
- To be understanding and supportive of our aims in the learning and teaching of RE and to review this policy annually.

Implementation and organisation of RE

To fulfil our aims we use the **Come and See** programme of Religious Education.

In accordance with the guidelines from the Bishops' Conference the KS2 children at St Mary's receive 2.5 hours of Religious Education each week and

KS1 receive 2 hours of taught sessions, plus enhancements through continuous provision.

Come and See integrates the Catechism of the Catholic Church, the Catholic Levels of Attainment and the Religious Education Curriculum Directory.

Children explore the mystery of Faith through Scripture and Tradition. Links are made explicitly in planning documents to the resources and plans are adapted to meet the needs of the unique cohorts.

Lessons are very well resourced with both interactive stimuli, a variety of artefacts and by making cross curricular links.

There are three topics taught each term and 2 'other faith' units; Islam and Judaism.

Come and See meets the requirements of the Curriculum Directory.

Resources

Each class has a set of resources to support child led worship. Each class has Come and See planning resources and access to the bank of interactive resources.

Planning Formats

- All teachers use the planning proforma created by the RE Subject Leader that includes space for Learning Intentions for each year group, whole class input, individual group activities and plenaries.

Assessment

- Children complete half termly Respond booklets linked to Come and See topics
- Each topic is assessed termly matching Come and See assessments and The Catholic RE Directory levels

Spiritual, Moral and Social Education

The Come and See programme encourages the children to think about their relationships and act responsibly. Our behaviour policy is founded on the principles of restorative justice.

Equal opportunities

Religious Education cannot proceed on the assumption that all pupils will, or should, have positive religious convictions or commitments. St Mary's school, should however, foster the search for meaning, value and purpose since

these are implied by the very concern to educate the whole person. It is therefore a legitimate part of the pupil's education that he/she should be encouraged to consider his/her own response to such issues.

Marking Work

Work should be marked in accordance with the school marking policy (see policy). Work should be marked in relation to the learning intentions. Key words must be corrected. Comments should encourage children to reflect, analyse and should be interactive.

Homework

- Homework (please refer to the School's Homework Policy)
- Each class sets RE homework at some point of each half term linked to class Come and See topics.

Subject Leader

The first purpose of the RE subject leader's role is to help improve the quality of the teaching and learning that in Religious Education. The subject leader is responsible for:

- Writing and keeping relevant documentation up to date
- Co-ordinating the teaching throughout the school by encouraging collaboration between year groups or key stages
- Being involved in the process of assessment, recording and reporting
- Monitoring the quality of teaching, the progression and continuity of Religious Education throughout the school.
- Offering support and advice to colleagues
- Identifying resource requirements
- Maintaining a strong relationship between the school and the Diocese, and with the school's Diocesan advisor
- Maintaining the high status of worship within the school
- With the Headteacher, completing the Religious Education action plan and using it to inform the School Improvement Plan
- Keeping resources well stored, catalogued and available
- Ensuring that the Curriculum Directory is understood and being followed

Policy written by J Robinson

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