



Christ Church C.E. Primary School Religious Education Policy

This policy is intended to ensure consistency across the school in terms of Religious Education teaching and learning. It is intended to be read in conjunction with the Collective Worship policy.

Religious Education should enhance learning through helping children:

- to learn **about** religion: developing knowledge and understanding of religious experiences, insights, beliefs and practices
- to learn **from** religion: to deepen or realise their own beliefs and respect the freedom of other people to hold beliefs different from their own, so preparing them for adult life as citizens in a plural society
- to develop an awareness of a spiritual dimension to life
- to develop an awareness that many people believe human life depends on an ultimate being or sustaining creative power, often referred to as God

Agreed Procedure

- Religious education has moved from a subject that was perceived as 'providing answers' to one that is fundamentally about 'exploring questions'. Religious Education at our school is centred around fourteen key questions (see the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus 2014)
- Six key concepts are explored through the questions: Identity, Diversity and Belonging, Practices and Ways of Life, Expressing Meaning, Values and Commitments, Beliefs, Teachings and Sources and Meaning, Purpose and Truth
- Our scheme of work will ensure that Christianity is included in each key stage
- In Reception and Key Stage One, Christianity and Sikhism are taught. In Key Stage Two Christianity, and two faiths – Sikhism and Judaism are taught. To understand Christianity better, an understanding of Judaism and Old Testament is useful and important. Other faiths will be referred to e.g. at times of celebrations and in relation to other topic themes e.g. in relation to geographical location units or other RE questions from the Agreed Syllabus.
- The minimum recommended teaching time necessary to fulfil the requirements of the agreed syllabus is 25-30 hours for Reception and Key Stage One and 35 hours for Key Stage Two per year.
- Visits to places of worship and outside visitors are planned in to our long term curriculum map.

Our Christian Values

Our teaching of Religious Education, like all our school life, is rooted in our fundamental Christian values. We have eleven Christian values, which are: compassion, courage, forgiveness, friendship, peace, perseverance, respect, responsibility, thankfulness, trust and truthfulness.

Meeting Legal Demands

RE in Christ Church CE Primary School is taught in accordance with the requirements of the Shropshire Agreed Syllabus 2014. RE has a special status as part of the basic curriculum but not the National Curriculum. This means that RE has equal standing in relation to the National curriculum subjects but it is not subject to statutorily prescribed national attainment targets, programmes of study and assessment arrangements, which would be compulsory for all pupils, without exception.

If a parent asks that a pupil should be wholly or partly excused from attending RE the school continues to be responsible for the supervision of the withdrawn child.

Is this working?

- Have pupils developed a knowledge and understanding of religious experiences, insights, beliefs and practices?
- Have pupils' own beliefs deepened? Are they able to express them freely?
- Do pupils respect the freedom of other people to hold beliefs different from their own?