



RE Policy

Policy Type	Policy Number	Prepared by (job title) and date
RE Policy		Acting Executive Headteacher 6.4.21
Approval Date	Review Frequency	Review Due Date
TBC	Bi - Annual	Summer 2023
Signed on behalf of the Full Governing Body:		

Introduction – INTENT / Rationale / Aims of the policy –

Introduction

In this policy we aim to set out the aims for the Religious Education Policy, explain how RE is planned, taught and assessed, explain how the SLT monitors and reports on RE and explain how RE is set in the context of the world we live in.

Mission Statement

Christ taught us to love one another.

As a school we follow his example, appreciating everyone as a unique gift from God.

We encourage each individual in the BEC Federation to achieve their true potential, giving them a firm foundation through love, learning and worship, to guide them on their journey through life.

Jesus said, "Love one another as I have loved you." (John 13: 34)

Aims:

- To promote the Catholic ethos of the school through prayer, reflection, forgiveness, reconciliation, celebration and liturgy.
- To fulfil our aims and objectives we use the 'The Way, the Truth and the Life' programme of Religious Education recommended by the Diocesan RE Advisory Service. The aim of this programme is to explore the religious dimension of questions about life, dignity and purpose within the Catholic tradition. Central to the The Way, the Truth and the Life programme are three basic human questions and the three Christian beliefs that are the Church's response in faith:

Where do I come from? Life < > Creation

Who am I? Dignity < > Incarnation

Why am I here? Purpose < > Redemption

- To encourage and develop links with family, parish and diocese and to provide a framework for Sacramental preparation that is mindful of the needs of all.
- To provide a whole-school approach to Religious Education, thereby ensuring continuity and progression.
- To help the children to become responsible and thoughtful members of the community through the promotion of moral issues, of fairness, right and wrong, self-discipline, respect for others and to value the importance of relationships.
- To promote equal opportunities by acknowledging and respecting the needs of the individual child and the diversity of home backgrounds.
- To explore the world as part of the universal church and to understand our duty as Christians to make the world a fairer place for everyone.
- To provide a framework for teaching Relationship, Health and Sex Education that takes into account the needs of the child, the family and the Church.

Organisation of the Religious Education Policy

1. Legislation and guidance - National Curriculum - INTENT
2. Roles and responsibilities - IMPLEMENTATION
3. Organisation and planning - IMPLEMENTATION
4. Inclusion - IMPLEMENTATION
5. Monitoring and Assessment arrangements - IMPACT
6. Links with other policies
7. Appendix

1. Legislation and guidance - National Curriculum - INTENT

R.E. is a core subject in our school, alongside English, Maths and Science, and therefore we devote 10% of our curriculum time to its delivery. We adhere to the Curriculum Directory guidelines and learning outcomes. This provides a cohesive approach and opportunities for whole school assemblies and celebrations as well as displays which are relevant to every child. The core of our curriculum is based on the Way The Truth and the Life scheme of work. These themes are developed with greater depth and breadth each year as the child progresses through the school, and will form the core of our R.E. studies

2. Roles and responsibilities - IMPLEMENTATION

Religious Education is the responsibility of the R.E. co-ordinator and the Executive Headteacher with support from the teachers. Their role is to monitor and assess the R.E. curriculum and Catholic prayer and worship throughout the school to ensure continuity and progression. They also ensure that the aims and learning outcomes in the Curriculum Directory are identified and fulfilled. A link governor has specific responsibility for R.E. and liaises closely with the staff of the school to fulfil their monitoring duties.

The Religious Education Co-ordinator will be responsible for:

- Working with senior leaders and monitoring teaching and learning, planning and standards through lesson observations and work scrutinies according to school practice.
- Organising in-house moderation of standards meetings.
- Self-evaluation to identify strengths and areas for development.
- Ensuring the curriculum offered is appropriate, suitable and relevant to pupils' needs and interests.
- Attend appropriate training and keeping up to date with current thinking, policy and developments and feeding back to staff.
- Organising and leading in-house staff training and development.
- Identifying training needs of staff to ensure their suitability to teach effective Religious Education.
- Supporting and advising colleagues in the delivery of Religious Education.

- Liaising with the Executive Headteacher, Governors, parents, the Education Service on matters relating to Religious Education.
- Auditing, managing and developing resources within a given budget.

Class teachers

Teachers will:

- Have a clear understanding of the requirements for RE in their year group and Key stage and reinforce them wherever possible.
- Plan, teach and assess RE in accordance with the school's schemes of work - The Way, The Truth and The Life.
- Handle RE topics sensitively and confidentially where appropriate
- Seek advice whenever they are unsure in what they are delivering

Governors

Governors are responsible for:

- Ensuring that the RE policy is in keeping with the Catholic teaching advocated by the Diocese and is implemented by the school
- Ensuring that the policy is available to parents
- Ensuring that the programme and the resources are suitably monitored and evaluated

3. Organisation and planning - IMPLEMENTATION

The BEC Federation uses The Way, the Truth and the Life as the scheme of work -

www.dioceseofleeds.org.uk/education/education/primary/way-truth-life.php . The learning themes and intentions from this scheme of work are used as the starter for the teacher's planning. For example, all teachers use the suggested planning framework from the Leeds Diocese. All teachers are expected to look at the content of a lesson and plan appropriate creative activities, which reflect the learning intentions. These can where relevant link with global issues and cross-curricular links especially with Citizenship and Geography. At least 10% of curriculum time is given for RE and RE in BEC Federation is considered a core subject. As a Federation, we use CAFOD's Sharing Our World resource so that a global dimension can be added to The Way, the Truth and the Life topics when it is appropriate. As a school, we also keep up to date with the current CAFOD campaigns and these are used as part of RE teaching where it is considered to be appropriate.

All teachers will give due consideration to the following points when planning for RE:

- Prior learning
- Sharing objectives
- Children's ideas
- Artefacts and resources
- Learning styles and pace
- Use of ICT
- Christ at the centre of the lesson
- Use of prayer - pupil led/pupil input,

- Different methods of prayer and
- Reflection, traditional
- Music – pupil choice, children singing
- Challenging and differentiated
- Collaboration between staff and pupils

Children will contribute to the planning where applicable, including the planning of assemblies, Collective Worship (refer to the Collective Worship Policy) and celebrations. Links will also be made with the children's own experience. This may include experience of other world faiths.

Wherever possible, opportunities will be planned to:

- Make links with the Parish including working with the priest
- Visit museums and galleries
- Work with artists, authors and performers
- Develop openness towards music and dance of other cultures
- Appreciate the natural world through Art and Literature
- Recognise the contribution made by other cultures to Art, Mathematics, Science and Technology
- The cultural activities and traditions of others will be planned for the whole school, and
- Linked with The Way, the Truth and the Life scheme of work for RE.

World Faiths

We aim for our children to accept that we are part of a world religious family within which national, racial and cultural differences should never introduce division. We want our children to understand, appreciate and gain from other religious traditions by approaching and learning in a spirit of openness and humility.

Our aims are:

- To understand that we are all children of God
- To look at, learn about and understand other faiths and cultures
- To develop a knowledge and appreciation of the skills in music and art of other faiths and communities
- We will portray Britain as a multi-faith society and endeavour to present a contemporary picture. With this in mind, we will also consider teaching about World Faiths when this is most relevant during the academic year, for example – during a festival or significant time of year for particular religions. This will be in addition to the The Way, the Truth and the Life programme.
- Through our teaching about world faiths, we hope that our children will recognise that we can learn a lot about ourselves and our Catholic Faith by developing our understanding of all religious traditions. Our key message will be of respect.

Cultures

As well as learning about world faiths, we want our children to appreciate their own cultural traditions. In our culturally rich society, we value contributions from pupils and adults from all cultural backgrounds. We promote a positive ethos for bi-lingual children in our school and we encourage our children to participate in cultural activities and traditions by:

- Exploring times and cultures different from our own
- Welcoming visitors from other cultures to our school
- Making use of our local community in our studies
- Making use of resources available to us
- Visiting places of cultural or historical significance, tradition or perspective
- Children and staff will use all aspects of the curriculum - Literacy, History, Geography,
- RHSE, Art, Music, Dance, Drama - to participate in, and to appreciate, their own and other cultural traditions.

Resources

Apart from year group The Way, the Truth and the Life books and individual class artefacts, RE resources are stored centrally. If you are unsure of what resources to use or what resources are available, please contact the Senior Leadership Team.

These resources include the following:

- Bibles and religious story books
- Prayer books
- Teacher Information Books
- Artefacts - boxes of artefacts for Christianity, Judaism, Sikhism, Islam, Hinduism
- Posters and display material
- CAFOD videos, DVDs, resource packs, posters

Websites: www.cafod.org.uk & www.edurcdhn.org.uk & www.cesew.org.uk & www.tere.org.uk

4. Inclusion - IMPLEMENTATION

We believe that all children should have the opportunity to be included in Religious Education and support those children with Special Educational Needs. Children who are noted to be Gifted and Talented in this area are encouraged to share their talents with the school community, and their gifts to be enhanced through appropriate differentiation.

5. Monitoring and Assessment arrangements - IMPACT

Assessment establishes what children know and understand and can do. It does not assess faith or the practice of faith. We use Levels of Attainment to measure pupil's understanding and progression, using the targets: Learning about Religion, and Learning from Religion. Assessments are based on observations, artwork, discussion notes, photos and as well as written work. These are then used to inform future planning. The children's book are the primary source of evidence. Each term one unit of work will be formally assessed following guidance from the Shrewsbury Diocese. The assessment sheet is kept in a central assessment folder including dated reference to the pieces of work and the highlighted front sheet. This assessment folder is kept in the Executive Headteacher's office.

Moderation of the children's work will happen during staff meeting. The RE Co-ordinator and SMT will monitor planning, teaching and assessment on a regular basis.

RE is included on the children's annual reports and is also discussed with parents at termly parents' evenings.

6. Links with other policies

- Collective Worship
- Spiritual and Moral Development
- Relationships and Sex Education
- Behaviour Policy
- Personal, Social, Emotional and Citizenship Education